Action Requested

That the University at Albany Graduate Student Association Assembly calls upon the University at Albany Senate and its Chair to assign a Senate committee with incorporating sustainability in the University’s academic learning objectives.

Be it hereby proposed that the following be enacted:

Whereas, the University at Albany’s Office of Environmental Sustainability is charged with coordinating and increasing sustainability of the campus community, including in its educational campaigns and programs; and

Whereas, the three pillars of sustainability are environmental, economic, and social sustainability; and

Whereas, in the Spring 2016 semester fifty (50) courses at the University at Albany incorporate at least two of the three aforementioned sustainability principles; and

Whereas, over twenty (20) University at Albany academic programs already incorporate learning outcomes consistent with the three principles of sustainability, spanning from Public Policy and Geography to Biological Sciences and Public Health; and

Whereas, 86% of academic departments are already involved in sustainability, 67% of faculty are involved in sustainability-related research, and 9% of classes in the undergraduate and graduate bulletins incorporate sustainability in their curriculum; and in the Spring 2016 semester, less than 1% of those classes are offered.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the University at Albany Graduate Student Association calls on the University Senate to approve this resolution and thereby approve the inclusion of sustainability in the University learning objectives; and

Be it further resolved, that the Chair of the University Senate, upon approval by the Senate, to task a Senate Committee or Council to determine how to best incorporate sustainability into the University academic learning objectives; and

Be it further resolved, that departments incorporate these broad-based, university-wide sustainability learning objectives developed by the Senate Committee or Council by adapting them to their individual learning objectives.