

## West Virginia University The Student Assembly - Student Government Association Assembly Resolution: AR-2025-04-03

## AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE THE CAMPUS FEEL ON EVANSDALE

Short Title: Evansdale Campus Beautification

Author(s): Shelby Davis, Senator

Kaelen Armstrong, College Senator (Statler)

Sponsor(s): Colin Street, Senator

Molly Meeker, Senator

**Matthew Olivero, President Pro Tempore** 

Tris Silva, College Senator (Eberly)

Cate Magrogan, College Senator (HSC)
Alex Tadros, College Senator (Statler)

Contributor(s): Gracey Champ, Intern

Remy Bogan, Green Guardian Ben Heinlein, Green Guardian Jake Shafer, Green Guardian Giuliana Groth, Green Guardian Kennedy Janowick, Green Guardian

**Cody Hiet, Green Guardian** 

**Thomas Putnam, Green Guardian** 

**Committee Endorsement: Community and Government Relations** 

First Reading Date: 4/2/2025

Second Reading Date: 4/9/2025

Date of Approval: 4/9/2025

Presidential Signature:

**Whereas,** the West Virginia University mission statement reads, "As a land-grant institution, the faculty, staff and students at West Virginia University commit to creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances education, healthcare and prosperity for all by providing access and opportunity;" and,

Whereas, the West Virginia University Student Government Association (SGA) vision statement reads, "To be a Student Government Association that serves the students, West Virginia University,...creating a campus that can accommodate everyone...participating in meaningful community service, fostering healthy lifestyles, and developing innovative partnerships with students, faculty, staff and other key stakeholders."<sup>2</sup>; and,

Whereas, the West Virginia University Student Government Association (SGA) is a student advocacy organization; and,

Whereas, up to 80% of prospective students prioritize the visual appeal of a campus when making enrollment decisions<sup>3</sup>; and,

**Whereas,** parks provide a recreational outlet for students, while increasing unity within the general student body<sup>4</sup>; and,

Whereas, when community members are involved in the decision-making of an area, there is significant participation after the completion<sup>4</sup>; and,

Whereas, people living more than 1 kilometer away from a green space have nearly 50 percent higher odds of experiencing stress than those living less than 300 meters from a green space and improving Evansdale outdoors will provide a more appealing green space for students<sup>5</sup>; and,

Whereas, majority of students who responded to WVU SGA's Evansdale Campus Feel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mission - West Virginia University

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mission and Vision | Student Government Association | West Virginia University

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Strategic Impact of Art in Higher Learning

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Power of Parks to Strengthen Community - Trust for Public Land

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Parks and Improved Mental Health and Quality of Life | Fact Sheets | Parks and Health | National Recreation and Park Association

Evaluation survey said Evansdale could use a little more decor<sup>6</sup>; and,

Whereas, multiple WVU SGA 2025-2026 Senator-Elects and the Green Guardians, a leadership capstone group, are focusing on campus beautification showing a push and student support for more community art on campus; and,

**Whereas,** past WVU SGA administrations have produced legislation on supporting pollinator and biodiversity in landscaping<sup>7</sup> and increased outdoor study space on campus<sup>8</sup>, but not focusing on the entire Evansdale campus feel; and,

Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:

**Section 1:** WVU SGA will discuss survey results with WVU Facilities Management to improve the Evansdale outdoor campus<sup>6</sup>; and,

**Section 2:** WVU SGA will work with WVU Facilities Management to increase outdoor seating, plant numerous trees and shrubs, add lampposts with campus branding along walkways, and implement other survey results<sup>6</sup>; and,

Section 3: Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:

## **Mandates:**

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students
Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership (Advisor)
University President Gordon E. Gee
Charlie Long, Student Body President
Abigail Browning, Student Body Vice President
Haley Orcutt, Executive Secretary
Daily Athenaeum
Chuck Roberts, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Evansdale Campus Feel Evaluation Results

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Assembly Resolution To Support Pollinator and Biodiversity Enhancing Landscaping On Campus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Assembly Resolution For Increased Outdoor Study Spaces