



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

73rd STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 30.

Primary Sponsor: Gonzalez and Stinson

Co-Sponsor(s): Bateman, Bergen, Daraldik, England, Flashman, Gabadage, Gonzales, Grunberger, J. Hitchcock, Hunter, Lessard, Linsky, Little, Marcus, Melian, Mougey, Murcia, Murray, Nemeth, Preshia, Sam, Soto, Stults, Villacorta, Wang

Whereas: Dr. Brandon Bowden serves as the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Florida State University where he directly supervises areas such as the Center for Leadership and Social Change, the Center for Global Engagement, the Student Union, the Student Engagement Department and co-supervises the Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement (CARE) along with the Dean of Undergraduate Studies and,

Whereas: Dr. Bowden stepped in as Interim Director of the Student Governance and Advocacy and Interim Director of Student Engagement at the end of July 2020 following the departure of Dr. Danielle Acosta and,

Whereas: With this role, he became the Interim Advisor of the Student Senate, tasked with supporting Student Senators personally and professionally while assuring administrative tasks were being performed in an efficient and statutory form and,

Whereas: Student Senators would like to personally thank Dr. Bowden for his contribution and influence to the Student Senate and our individual growth in the following way and,

Whereas: Senator Bateman says "Thank you for providing the candor, advice and guidance of an excellent advisor. I've greatly enjoyed working for you over these past few months" and,

Whereas: Senator Bergen says "Thank you for everything you do, Dr. Bowden. The effort and time you contribute to SGA and Senate does not go unappreciated" and,

Whereas: Senator Daraldik says "Dr. Bowden I want to express my most gracious respect and gratitude for you and your presence within the Student Senate Legislative body. You have as a Black Man been such an inspiration for me as a man of color that I will never forget the positive impact you have had on my life and FSU experience. Throughout everything I always knew I could come to you and express my thoughts which provided me with so much stability during my tenure as the Student Senate President. You helped me realize that every individual has no limitations beyond self-limitation, a lesson I will never lose sight of. Thank you for being a true role model and inspiring many others and myself to be our genuine selves; forever and always love you Dr. B" and,

Whereas: Senator England says "There are nine areas within the Division of Student Affairs that direct reports to you. This did not stop you from going out of your way to ensure all areas of student government were covered after Dr. Danielle Acosta's departure. I find it hard enough dealing with my two hats - student and senator - yet you somehow juggle nine. You are an inspiration to us all and your hard work will not soon be forgotten by the students of today and of tomorrow" and,

Whereas: Senator Flashman says "Thank you for the work you've done in the short time I've been a member of the 73rd student senate. I am thankful for the effort you put into SGA, going above and beyond to help run our student government" and,

Whereas: Senator Gabadage says "Dr. Bowden has consistently been a light within student government even at the most stressful times. He has displayed throughout his time here how much he genuinely cares for the well-being of senators and our personal growth. I cannot thank him enough for his dedication" and,

Whereas: Senator Gonzales says “This administrator has been there for me when I was lost and I didn’t know what to do, and for that I am thankful” and,

Whereas: Senator Grunberger says “Thank you so much Dr. Bowden, for all you have done for SGA and the FSU community. You always respond when I reach out and you try to help no matter what, with no hesitation. I appreciate all the work you have done for the FSU community as well as the work we have done on the Jewish Student-Life Task Force and the work that we will continue to do. Thankful for all that you do Dr. B!” and,

Whereas: Senator J. Hitchcock says “Thank you, Dr. Bowden for being our anchor when life was most volatile. Thank you for being there for the new senators in our time of need. Thank you so much for showing us professionalism, courage, and respectfulness!” and,

Whereas: Senator Hunter says “I am eternally thankful for your guidance during my short time in senate. Your care for students has always been evident and at the forefront of all the work you do. I am grateful for your commitment to bettering not only students’ lives within the senate chamber but also beyond. Thank you for the time you dedicated to us, it will never be forgotten!” and,

Whereas: Senator Lessard says “While I have only been in Senate for a short time, I will forever be grateful for everything I have learned from you. Thank you Dr. Bowden for carrying us through the good and the bad. Thank you for your encouraging words after long senate meetings or even emotionally difficult ones. We appreciate everything you do!” and,

Whereas: Senator Linsky says “I am very grateful for the opportunities to have learned from you, rely on your experience, and better understand how students and administrators can collaborate to best represent our University. Thanks for setting a tone and tempo that will continue to guide us through the good, the bad, and the uncertain” and,

Whereas: Senator Little says “Dr. Bowden, your hard work has been so essential to the success of this body. Thank you for stepping up and being a prominent leader during one of the most difficult and insane times for this Senate and for FSU as a whole. I am immensely grateful for your guidance while I was learning the ropes of Senate leadership. You encouraged and supported me through some of my hardest times in Senate, showing me that I am capable of more than I think when I am confident and fair. Many of my personal successes in Senate wouldn’t have been possible without you, so thank you. We’ll miss you, but can’t wait to see the next big thing you do!” and,

Whereas: Senator Marcus says “Thank you for going out of your way and giving us ample amounts of your time to help us serve the student body! We have spent many a Wednesday evening staring at zoom boxes and your efforts to help us help students by overseeing these long meetings are so appreciated” and,

Whereas: Senator Melian says “Thank you for your continued servitude and attentiveness. Your aid has well served us, and I give eternal thanks. I appreciate your time and effort and it inspires me to put my best foot forward” and,

Whereas: Senator Mougey says “Dr. Bowden, I truly cannot thank you enough for your dedication to the student government of Florida State University. Your time, energy, and love for the students of our institution is inspirational. Throughout my time at FSU, I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with you. You are an inspiration to so many students and a strong leader that we needed so desperately. I will be forever grateful for the past couple of years” and,

Whereas: Senator Murcia says “Dr Bowden, thank you for all the work you did with the 72nd Student Senate. I know that working with us can sometimes be difficult and I know it is very time consuming. So I really appreciate the work you did! I also want to thank you for helping me through Sweepings. It was a hard week, but we got through it and a large part of that was your help and guidance. Thank you for setting an example for how the senate should be run and thank you for allowing the late night meetings. I am grateful for getting the chance to work with you” and,

Whereas: Senator Murray says “Dr. Bowden, thank you for playing such a vital role in our 73rd student senate. Your work does not go unnoticed and inspires me to not only become a better senator, but a better human! Thank you for guiding us in our time of need, even if it is at 12’ o’clock at night. Your passion for students and willingness to lend a hand to anyone is incredibly appreciated and admirable” and,

Whereas: Senator Nemeth says “Dr. Bowden, thank you for contributing so much of your time to the student body and for setting such an amazing example of how administrators and students can work together towards a common goal. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. The 73rd Student Senate has been so lucky to have you” and,

Whereas: Senator Preshia says “Dr. B, I appreciate the time and dedication you put into Senate. I recognized your impact even before I was elected. I saw the many hours you put in over summer 2020 making sure that student’s voices were represented and making sure the legislative body was able to effectively exercise its power. Even though I came in towards the end of your student government advisory period, I know that you will continue to make an impact on the Florida State University community in so many ways!” and,

Whereas: Senator Sam says “Thank you for being a light in the dark path of what summer Senate was. I will forever appreciate the support you gave me during my term, and I hope you know I found it invaluable in my journey in student leadership” and,

Whereas: Senator Soto says “Thank you for making yourself available enough to help run Senate meetings smoothly! Also, a HUGE thank you for helping myself and the Senate Finance Committee with the start of revisions to the Finance Code! Your guidance and willingness to help us as not only senators, but also as students, will never be forgotten, even if it means replying to our emails at 11 o’clock at night!” and,

Whereas: Senator Stults says “Thank you for making the Senate run smoothly and assisting all the Senators in all our efforts. You made SGA a better place and you helped me gain the experience and knowledge necessary to function as a Student Senator. We will all miss you!” and,

Whereas: Senator Villacorta says “Dr. Bowden was the first administrator I have had the pleasure of working with who showed genuine concern for the issues in student government, from corruption and ethics concerns to student health and well-being, and never made senators feel like any idea was unattainable, but instead encouraged cooperation and always kept his door open for me. Dr. Bowden shuns the elitism and gatekeeping that is too often present in the University administration, and for that he will be always remembered as an administrator that truly worked for the benefit of the students” and,

Whereas: Senator Wang says “Words are powerless to express my gratitude to you Dr. Bowden. Thank you for making my transition to Pro-Tempore as smooth as possible in a virtual setting amidst a pandemic. I appreciate your guidance and willingness to help at all times. You stepped up in the most tumultuous time SGA has ever seen. From 1 AM meetings to constantly checking through statutes to answer our questions, your efforts have not gone unnoticed. Thank you for caring about us beyond what your job required” and,

Whereas: Senator Gonzalez says “Dr. Bowden, your name carries weight and your words carry value. But not value simply in purpose, but value in empathy, morality, and truth. Beyond the unbiased, just nature in which you conducted yourself as an administrator, you managed to instill the power of kindness and fairness in every single one of us. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for taking this on, for opening your arms and heart to us, and for supporting me as an individual. You came into my life and provided that balance, that listening heart and open soul that makes someone feel truly valued, despite all else going on. You deserve the world, and I truly hope Florida State recognizes the worth you bring to the table” and,

Whereas: Senator Stinson says “Dr. Bowden, you have truly been a role model in the realm of professionalism for me. You have shown me that compassion can carry weight across all aisles. You’ve been selfless in your actions and in your allegiance to making

Florida State the amazing place it is today. Seeing how hard you work from 8am to midnight inspires me and many others to give our work the same commitment and dedication you do. You make me want to be a better person and I cannot show my appreciation enough. Thank you for being you!" and,

Whereas: Dr. Bowden shall be recognized for his outstanding efforts during this past year, where he was thrust into a difficult position at a volatile time and nonetheless worked tirelessly to guide Student Senators to the principles of amity, compromise, and respectful disagreement, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Seventy-third Student Senate at Florida State University that: The Student Governance and Advocacy expresses it's deepest gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Brandon Bowden for his endless devotion to the individual and organizational success of SG&A. We recognize his worth and acknowledge the influence he has had on our growth as individuals and leaders.

Be it further resolved that: As a token of our appreciation, Dr. Brandon Bowden is to be nominated for the FSU Student Senate Award for Excellence for his distinguished service to the Florida State University and his outstanding performance in representing the institution.

Be it lastly resolved that: A copy of this resolution be sent to:
Dr. Brandon Bowden, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Angela Chong, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs
John Thrasher, President of Florida State University

OFFICIAL: _____

DocuSigned by:
Alexander Harmon
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4/1/2021 | 10:25 AM EDT

Student Senate President

**SENATE VOTE: UNANIMOUS CONSENT
PASSED: March 24, 2021**