Resolution - 2023-2024 - #24

Subject: Resolution regarding UB Broad Based Fees
Submitted by: Kayla Yan, Senator

WHEREAS under Article IV § 4.01(b)(vii) of the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. (“SA”) By-Laws, the SA Senate is empowered to “enact resolutions concerning issues of importance” that impact University at Buffalo (“UB”) undergraduate “student rights and student welfare”;

WHEREAS UB has indicated that they plan to implement a 6.8% increase in broad based fee rates from the 2024-2025 to 2028-2029 academic years;

WHEREAS the UB Broad Based Fee Survey received a total of just seventy-one responses to their survey regarding the proposed fee rate increases;

WHEREAS even if all respondents to the UB Broad Based Fee Survey were undergraduate students, out of the 20,761 undergraduate students, the survey results would represent the opinions of approximately 0.34% of the undergraduate student body;

WHEREAS as of 2019, the average debt load for UB students at graduation was $25,598, which will only increase if the proposed fee rate increases go into effect;

WHEREAS the ability of undergraduate students to make their opinions known on proposed broad based fee rate increases directly implicates undergraduate student rights and student welfare; and

WHEREAS the debt load of undergraduate students, both while attending UB and at graduation, directly and indirectly implicates undergraduate student rights and student welfare; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the SA Senate respectfully calls upon UB to enhance the reach of their survey efforts, to ensure the responses received accurately reflect the attitudes and opinions of the undergraduate student body.