

I'm the president of Gators for a Sustainable Campus, a UF student organization affiliated with the Office of Sustainability. As you may have heard, a referendum asking students if they'd be willing to pay 50 cents a credit-hour to finance a campus renewable energy and energy efficiency fund recently passed with 78% of the vote. The fee, which would raise \$645,000 a year for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects on campus, would be the first of its kind in Florida.

In order for this fee to be implemented, we need the support of the President's Office and the Florida Legislature, which must pass a bill allowing the fee. The exciting thing is that if both Houses pass the fee, all 11 public universities in Florida will be able to create a renewable energy fund. This would be one of the largest increases in clean energy funding in the last 30 years.

During our research, we noticed that you are a member of the Sustainability Committee and the Faculty Senate. We are currently working to pass resolutions in both the Student and Faculty Senates supporting the renewable energy fee. Do you think you could help us introduce this resolution (a draft is attached below).

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Brendan Moore

WHEREAS, the vast majority of the University of Florida's power comes from non-renewable sources like coal, petroleum, and natural gas; and

WHEREAS, the Earth is experiencing global climate change in large part because of the overuse of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, creating a fund of student fee money to support renewable energy and energy efficiency options on campus will reduce pollution and electricity costs; and

WHEREAS, this plan for a student renewable energy and energy efficiency fee has been discussed with and has the approval of Dedee Delongpre, UF Director of Sustainability and John Lawson, Physical Plant Division Utility Manager; and

WHEREAS, a referendum placed on the Spring 2007 student government ballot to gauge support for a 50 cent per credit-hour fee passed with 78% of the vote; then

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of Florida urges the Administration to publicly support a Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency student fee at Florida public universities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of Florida urges the Florida Legislature to pass legislation allowing all Florida public universities to implement a Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency student fee.