



SENATE OF COLLEGE COUNCILS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

2201 Speedway A6210 · Austin, TX 78712-0810 · (512) 471-3166 · Fax: (512) 471-3408 · www.utsenate.org

S.R. 2401: A Resolution To Create Formal Student Infrastructure Committees for Academic Success

Legislative Executive Summary

Infrastructure is fundamental to the students at the University of Texas at Austin. Currently, many discussions on campus among faculty and administrators regarding infrastructure developments are ongoing. To ensure that these developments best impact students, it is vital to have student voices in these discussions wherever possible. This legislation calls for the establishment of a Student Infrastructure Committee (SIC) for each College.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why create a Student Infrastructure Committee (SIC)?

A: Infrastructure directly impacts the lives of students at the University of Texas at Austin. Thus, it is important to have student liaisons directly involved in these conversations. There is no regulated precedent for this thus far. Having these committees will allow for a direct pipeline of student feedback about infrastructure to administration. Ideally, the committees will be composed of students from various majors, backgrounds, and experiences, thus providing many perspectives on which infrastructure projects to invest in to maximize student academic success.

Q: How would these committees act?

A: Administrators would convene committees as needed for projects where student feedback can reinforce decision-making. The committee should be consulted namely for the ideation Funding for Small Academic Renovation Projects (80/20) Program, but it can also serve as a consultant for other projects.

Q: How would these committees be assembled?

A: Theoretically, a committee should be established in each College. Establishment should be facilitated by each College's *Associate Dean* for Facilities (or equivalent, henceforth) but may be delegated if necessary. By the Associate Dean's discretion, application processing can either 1) be led by the *Associate Dean* themselves or 2) be delegated to the College's Council. A call for members should be issued annually (at the beginning of the academic year's Fall Term). Members may not serve more

than one year to allow for new perspectives. The number of seats given is at the discretion of the *Associate Dean* for Facilities.



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Academic Connection

Infrastructure is crucial for facilitating academic success. Without clean, spacious architecture, coupled with plentiful facilities such as study spaces, collaborative areas, and lounges, evidence shows that academic success is found to decline¹. Furthermore, student testimonies collected by the Natural Sciences Council regarding the Physics, Math, and Astronomy (PMA) building detail the impact of poor infrastructure on the academic experience of students². A student infrastructure committee will standardize much-needed student input in the many discussions regarding infrastructure across our campus.

¹“Educational Spaces: The Relation Between School Infrastructure and Learning Outcomes” *National Library of Medicine*, September 24, 2024, accessed January 31, 2025, <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11467531/#:~:text=They%20found%20an%20association%20between,in>



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S.R. 2401

A Resolution To Create Formal Student Infrastructure Committees For Academic Success

February 6th, 2025

Introduced in The Senate of College Councils on February 6, 2025 • Voted on in The Senate of College
Councils on _____ • The Resolution _____ on a _____ vote.

WHEREAS, Infrastructure is fundamental to the academic success of students at the University of
Texas at Austin; and,

WHEREAS, There is no standardized method of providing administration with student feedback
about infrastructure on campus; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a Student Infrastructure Committee, is recruited for each College to inform
administrators about infrastructure projects that need to be prioritized as per student
needs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That these committees are called upon to consult in infrastructure discussions and
proposals for projects and developments, such as the Funding for Small Academic
Renovation Projects (80/20) Program; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the *Dean* of each College at the University of Texas at Austin oversees the
formation of the Student Infrastructure Committee for their College through the
Associate Dean for Facilities; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That each College's *Associate Dean* for Facilities work with College Councils to form these committees every year; therefore, be it



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RESOLVED, That this resolution be sent to Ross Johnson, *Assistant Vice Provost, Director of Academic Facilities Planning and Management*, Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost; Dr. Roger T. Bonnecaze, *Dean*, Cockrell School of Engineering; Dr. Charles Martinez, *Dean*, College of Education; Dr. Ramón Rivera-Servera, *Dean*, College of Fine Arts; Dr. Ann Huff Stevens, *Dean*, College of Liberal Arts; Dr. Samuel Poloyac, *Dean*, College of Pharmacy; Dr. Claudia F. Lucchinetti, *Dean and Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs*, Dell Medical School; Dr. Claudia Mora, *Dean*, Jackson School of Geosciences; Dr. JR DeShazo, *Dean*, LBJ School of Public Affairs; Dr. Lillian Mills, *Dean*, McCombs School of Business; Dr. Anita Vangelisti, *Interim Dean*, Moody College of Communication; Heather Woofter, *Dean*, School of Architecture; Soo Young Rieh, *Interim Dean*, School of Information; Robert M. Chesney, *Dean*, School of Law; Eun-Ok Im, *Dean*, School of Nursing; Allan Cole, *Dean*, Steve Hicks School of Social Work; Richard J. Reddick, *Undergraduate College and Senior Vice Provost for Curriculum and Enrollment*, Undergraduate College; Justin Dyer, *Dean*, School of Civic Leadership; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this resolution is sent to Dr. Andreas Matouschek, *Associate Dean for Research and Facilities*, College of Natural Sciences; Dr. David Vanden Bout, *Dean*, College of Natural Sciences; Dr. Michael Drew, *Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education*, College

of Natural Sciences; Anneke Chy, *Assistant Dean for Advising and Student Support*,
College of Natural Sciences; Elizabeth Morgan, *Director of Student Life, Recruitment, &*
Special Programs, College of Natural Sciences.



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