

**R F2017.14**

**A Resolution Allocating Funds to Purchase Graphing Calculators for LSA Instructional Support Services to Rent Out to Students**

*A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government*

15 November 2017

Sponsors: Nicholas Fadanelli, Ryan Gillcrist, Hanna Simmons, and Hunter Arcand

**Whereas**, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;<sup>1</sup> and,

**Whereas**, numerous courses across the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (hereafter LSA), and especially in the Math, Physics, Statistics, and Economics Departments, require students have access to a graphing calculator either for the completion of homework or for taking examinations; and,

**Whereas**, graphing calculators cost on average \$65.00-\$85.00 each, not including the cost of batteries, which can be a financial burden on students from less privileged socioeconomic backgrounds; and,

**Whereas**, the LSA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan (hereafter DEI Plan), as part of its Vision states, “One of our highest priorities is to see that top students who come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds”;<sup>2</sup> and,

**Whereas**, LSA has started other initiatives related to ensuring equitable access to resources for students, including the Laptop Loan Program;<sup>3</sup> and,

**Whereas**, LSA Instructional Support Services (hereafter ISS) currently operates an Equipment Loan Program, where UM students, faculty, and staff can rent out equipment including but not limited to computers, i-clicker support equipment, cameras, projectors, and microphones for short periods of time;<sup>4</sup> and,

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<sup>1</sup> The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

<sup>2</sup> Mission, Vision, and Commitment - LSA DEI Strategic Plan - <https://lsa.umich.edu/lsa/about/diversity--equity-and-inclusion/strategic-plan/mission-vision-commitment.html>

<sup>3</sup> “LSA Laptop Loan Program helps low-income students succeed”. Jeremy Allen. Public Affairs <https://lsa.umich.edu/psych/news-events/all-news/staff-news/lsa-laptop-loan-program-helps-low-income-students-succeed.html>

<sup>4</sup> LSA Instructional Support Services Equipment Loan and Reservation <https://lsa.umich.edu/iss/equipment-loan---reservation-.html>

**Whereas**, LSA ISS Director Monika Dressler has stated that ISS is willing to purchase a few graphing calculators to loan out to students, however would need additional funding to make a larger number of calculators available for rental; and,

**Whereas**, the Central Student Government is also willing to aid in funding the purchase of graphing calculators for students to be able to rent out.

**Be it therefore resolved**, LSA SG allocates \$1000 from the LSA SG General Discretionary Fund for the purchase of graphing calculators for an LSA ISS Graphing Calculator Rental Program; and,

**Be it further resolved**, the LSA SG Executive Board shall coordinate with LSA ISS either the transfer of these funds, or the direct purchase of graphing calculators by LSA SG for later transfer to LSA ISS; and,

**Be it finally resolved**, if the totality of the \$1000 is not needed or utilized for this initiative, LSA SG shall retain whatever part is not utilized and it shall carry over into the Winter 2018 semester.