

R W2016.13

A Resolution to Create a “Before I die…” Wall in Angell Hall

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

16 March 2016

Sponsors: Jason Colella, Edward Gotfredson, and Nadine Jawad

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”;¹ and,

Whereas, mental health is a growing issue on campus that needs to be addressed; and,

Whereas, a “Before I die…” Wall is a large chalk wall with blank lines for students to write hopes, dreams, and goals to complete the sentence “Before I die…”; and,

Whereas, *Before I Die* is a global art project that invites people to reflect on their lives and share their personal aspirations in public space; and,

Whereas, artist Candy Chang created an interactive wall on an abandoned house in her neighborhood to create an anonymous place to help restore perspective and share intimately with neighbors and friends; and,

Whereas, this wall is meant to provide a level of motivation and well-being for students on campus; and,

Whereas, *Publishers Weekly* calls it, “a powerful and valuable reminder that life is for the living, and it’s never too late, or too early, to join the party”;² and,

Whereas, the University of Michigan works to create a community where individuals can share their experiences, stories, and goals in order to foster a more accepting and inclusive community; and,

Whereas, *The Atlantic* called the *Before I Die* campaign “one of the most creative community projects ever”;³ and,

Whereas, Tulane University and University of Southern California both have “Before I die…” Walls, which have received great responses and feedback from students and faculty around campus**; and,

Whereas, University of Michigan strives to be one of the leading universities in the country in regards to improving mental health on campus.

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

² Quoted in <http://beforeidie.cc/site/the-book/>

³ Quoted in <http://beforeidie.cc/site/about/>

Be it therefore resolved, LSA SG will submit a request for a “Before I die...” Wall to be installed on the wall between the first floor Angell Hall Auditoriums and the exit out of Tisch Hall; and,

Be it further resolved, partnering with LSA Facilities, this designated wall will become a chalk board space for students to write on with chalk provided by LSA SG; and, ****

Be it finally resolved, LSA SG will send a copy of this resolution and a signed letter of support, written by the LSA SG Executive Board in consultation with the sponsors, to Director of Facilities and Operations Robert Johnston, LSA Facilities Manager - Humanities and Social Sciences Lisa Reiher, Associate Vice President for Facilities and Operations Hank Baier, Executive Director of Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Marina Roelofs, LSA Dean Andrew Martin, and LSA Associate Dean Angela Dillard.