



WESTERN STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

Pollination Proclamation: A Resolution Supporting the Apiculture Training Installment for Continued Permaculture Research Student Sustainability Grant Proposal

Resolution# 1213-18

Authors:

Nicholas Wikar, *College of Arts and Sciences Senator & Students for a Sustainable Earth Co-Chair;*

Cody Hodges, *Students for a Sustainable Earth Senator;*

Kyle Martin, *American Society for Engineering Management Senator*

Sponsored by: Students for a Sustainable Earth

WHEREAS, the Vision of Western Michigan University states an aspiration to impact and engage the globe positively by maintaining a commitment to sustainability;

WHEREAS, strategy 5.2 of Western Michigan University's Strategic Plan is to advance environmental sustainability;

WHEREAS, the Western Student Association (WSA) voted in favor of introducing a sustainability fund fee of \$8.00 per semester and \$4.00 per summer session;

WHEREAS, the student body voted in favor of establishing this fee through referendum in March of 2010;

WHEREAS, these funds are to be used to enrich course offerings and support student-driven initiatives and provide research grants;

WHEREAS, the Student Sustainability Grant Allocations Committee operates under the pretenses of the Student Sustainability Grants Handbook, enacted May 15, 2012;

WHEREAS, members of Students for a Sustainable Earth have authored a grant in excess of \$10,000 to initiate an on-campus, long-term apiary research project;

WHEREAS, apiary populations (pollinators) support a rich, healthy, biodiverse, and sustainable environment;

WHEREAS, current student-led garden initiatives need the support of healthy apiary populations to ensure continued success and the further advancement of sustainability;

WHEREAS, there has been a drastic rise in the number of disappearances of Western honey bee colonies in North America since late 2006 through the phenomenon known as colony collapse disorder (CCD);

WHEREAS, the cause(s) of colony collapse disorder (CCD) remains unknown;

WHEREAS, Western Michigan University should allow and conduct long-term apiary research to support student-led garden initiatives and investigate colony collapse disorder (CCD);

WHEREAS, the Student Sustainability Grants Handbook, Section 3, Subsection 6, Clause f requires the Western Student Association (WSA) support grants in excess of \$10,000 by “formal resolution”;

THEREFORE, BE(E) IT RESOLVED that the Western Student Association (WSA) supports this grant proposal to be in the best interest of advancing sustainability on-campus;

THEREFORE, BE(E) IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Western Student Association (WSA) highly encourages the Student Sustainability Grant Allocations Committee to approve the Apiculture Training Installment for Continued Permaculture Research grant application as proposed.

