

UNIVERSITY of  
**HOUSTON**

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: UB-55001

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Author(s): Pres. Barrett

Sponsor(s): Chair Lorine, Sen. Caceres, Sen. Akhtar, Sen. Vicklund, Sen. Bryan, Sen. Marin, Sen. Syed, Sen. Chang

Committee: Student Life

Draft: Final

The Involvement Act

Whereas, the University of Houston, currently, is around 80% commuter students<sup>1</sup>;

Whereas, A commuter student faces a steeper curve to involvement than the average on-campus student;

Whereas, the University of Houston has, historically, struggled to spur involvement on campus;

Whereas, students who are involved on campus are more likely to give back, monetarily, to their university later in life<sup>2</sup>;

Whereas, the main mechanisms for University Involvement include but are not limited to: word of mouth, campus advertising (cougar postings, email, the paper, etc.), and the Get Involved service;

Whereas, the Get Involved service is a University created, sponsored, and managed service meant to spur involvement of students on campus;

Whereas, the organizations on Get Involved often (1) do not exist or (2) do not have updated contact information;

Whereas, the first step many students take towards involvement is through the Get Involved service;

Whereas, the lack of updated contact information and non-current organizations discourages diminishes involvement on campus;

Whereas, currently, student organization leaders update their contact information yearly through the renewal process for their registered status;

Whereas, student leaders, after completing the necessary renewal process, then have to go back into Get Involved and manually enter their updated contact information;

Whereas, Get Involved does not have standards on reporting meeting times and locations;

Whereas, many students lose out on potential involvement because of the lack of relevant information on Get Involved regarding organization events/meetings;

Whereas, Get Involved does not incorporate class schedules into room scheduling, causing confusion when student leaders attempt to schedule events;

Whereas, the Center for Student Involvement is a department at the University of Houston tasked with engaging students, maintaining current involvement, and creating further involvement;

Whereas, in order to become a registered student organization, there is a structured process which includes: drafting a constitution, finding a faculty advisor, completing an application, attending an orientation, and attending multiple university/state sponsored trainings;

Whereas, currently registered student organizations must complete these trainings on an annual basis;

Whereas, at these trainings, student leaders must sign-in on paper and detail which student organizations they are representing in order to receive credit for attendance, in order to either create or maintain their registered status;

Whereas, a paperless process would be more secure, cheaper, more efficient, more convenient, and better for the environment.

Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

That Get Involved implements the following changes:


- (1) Require Registered Student Organizations to input their regular/general public meeting times and locations into the Get Involved service;
- (2) All Registered Student Organizations which have not been active on Get Involved in longer than 8 months be given 10 business days' notice to update their contact/meeting information, and that if they do not update their contact information within the month, they will be removed from the Get Involved

service until the following year's renewal process, should they choose to renew their registration status;


- (3) All RSOs which have not been active on Get Involved for more than 12 months be immediately removed, with notice and explanation until the following year's renewal process, should they choose to renew their registration status; and
- (4) Input the class schedules into the online room reservation process within the Student Center's event management system in order to avoid confusion on room availability.

Be it further enacted that the Center for Student Involvement implements the following changes:

- (1) Implement a paperless system for student organizations registering for the mandated trainings for the first time and for those currently registered student organizations attempting to renew their trainings;
- (2) Allow the diversity training sponsored by the Center for Diversity and Inclusion to be a two-year certification;
- (3) In the case that a registered student organization has continuing leadership which has previously undergone a two-year certification training the previous year, allow each individual with the two-year certification to be exempted from attending the training the following year;
- (4) That Spring Cat's Back be held for a period of time after 5:00PM; and
- (5) Abolish all Student Organization Leadership and Advancement Retreat (SOLAR) requirements.

  
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Cameron Barrett  
Student Government President  
Date of President's Approval: 4/24/18

**APPROVED**

  
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Andrew Trinh  
Speaker of Senate  
Date of Senate Approval: 4/25/18

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/university-of-houston-3652/student-life>

<sup>2</sup> <http://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1842&context=dissertations&sei-redir=1>