



**Resolution No. 1920-04**

**A Resolution Supporting Tiger Pantry's Meal Plan Swipes Program**

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE GATHERED THAT:

- WHEREAS,** Tiger Pantry is a student auxiliary service and support program at the University of Missouri which is partnered with The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri; and
- WHEREAS,** Tiger Pantry receives no financial support for their various programs, they operate entirely on donations; and
- WHEREAS,** 1.4% of the graduate and professional student population consistently use Tiger Pantry, and 1.9% of the population consistently use the Meal Point program offered by Tiger Pantry, which amounts to 217 students, of which 63% are graduate and professional students, as of October 2019; and
- WHEREAS,** Currently, Tiger Pantry has a program whereby undergraduate, graduate, and professional students may receive points from a Campus Dining Services Meal Plan—colloquially referred to as “swipes”—from the Pantry to use at any all-you-care-to-eat Campus Dining location; and
- WHEREAS,** Tiger Pantry allocates these swipes on a deficit they run with Campus Dining Services and then they typically make up the deficit by receiving donated swipes from students with more than they need for the remainder of the semester; and
- WHEREAS,** In the recent past, Campus Dining Services began offering Flex Dollar options to buy food and drink on campus, and students may purchase Flex Dollars instead blocks of Meal Points; and
- WHEREAS,** Flex Dollars function like regular currency rather than like Meal Points, and they also persist across the winter break (whereas a block of Meal Points would not rollover to the Spring semester), and so there are fewer students with “swipes” they could donate; and
- WHEREAS,** It is anticipated that Campus Dining Services will eventually move away from blocks of Meal Points, moving in favor of Flex Dollar options instead; and
- WHEREAS,** Because of these reasons, Tiger Pantry is currently running a deficit which is optimistically \$10,000 and which likely will not be paid for without immediate action; and
- WHEREAS,** Tiger Pantry will need to develop a sustainable funding model for the swipes program if it is to retain this service; and
- WHEREAS,** Administrators may be likely to recommend significantly cutting down on the meals provided by the swipes program, or perhaps ending the swipes program entirely, to redistribute efforts to the other functions of Tiger Pantry instead; therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** By majority vote of the General Assembly here gathered that the Graduate Professional Council hereby expresses its support for the continuation of Tiger Pantry's Meal Plan “swipes” program; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the Graduate Professional Council encourages Tiger Pantry to explore ways to sustainably fund the Meal Plan “swipes” program; and be it further



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**RESOLVED,** That the Graduate Professional Council consider ways in which GPC can help fund Tiger Pantry and present any such way to the General Assembly as a Resolution before moving forward with such funding; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the General Assembly here gathered charges the GPC Executive Board with presenting a copy of this Resolution to the Vice Provost for Student Affairs and the Dean of the Graduate School.

**SUBMITTED,**

**Al Willsey, GPC President**

**Mathew Swan, Director of Tiger Pantry**