



A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CAL STATE LA DEAD-HOUR

Respectfully submitted to the Board of Directors of California State University, Los Angeles, Associated Students, Incorporated
Resolution Number WR-16-001 Submission Date: 02/18/2016 Approval Date: TBD

Authored by Tim Achinger, Undergraduate Academic Senator, Associated Students, Incorporated, and Nadia Syed, Undergraduate Academic Senator, Associated Students, Incorporated

The Associated Students, Incorporated (A.S.I.), the single recognized voice for nearly 27,000 students at California State University, Los Angeles, was engaged by our constituents and asked to study the impact of losing a daily dead-hour - the block in time in which most students do not have class.

WHEREAS, A.S.I. sees the value in the dead-hour (from 3:10 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. daily) as a crucial time for student involvement; and

WHEREAS, the dead-hour promotes campus unity through utilization of resource-specific events that enhance student interaction; and

WHEREAS, the dead-hour accommodates faculty office hours and accessibility; and

WHEREAS, academic studies have shown considerable increases in student performance when proper breaks are afforded¹; and

WHEREAS, dead-hour is vital for students to work collaboratively to attain their educational goals and complete group projects; and

WHEREAS, the University has failed to provide any evidence of potential cost savings or academic benefits derived from severely limiting the availability of dead-hour; and

WHEREAS, some students with a Monday, Wednesday, Friday schedule will not be able to take advantage of the dead-hour if it is only offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays; and

WHEREAS, A.S.I. believes that changing the dead-hour structure to an hour and forty minute block only twice per week will adversely affect student involvement and student success; let it be

RESOLVED, that the A.S.I. Board of Directors takes a formal stance in support of a daily dead-hour model and encourages the Cal State LA Academic Senate to develop a class

¹ Ariga, A., & Lleras, A. Brief and rare mental "breaks" keep you focused: Deactivation and reactivation of task goals preempt vigilance decrements. *Cognition* (2011), <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0010027710002994>



schedule design that considers the daily dead-hour necessity; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Academic Senate consider the dead-hour be renamed as “Activity Hour” to reflect its purpose as a means for student participation and involvement; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be distributed widely, including, but not limited to, CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White, the California State Student Association, the California Faculty Association, the Cal State LA Campus President Dr. William A. Covino, the Cal State LA Academic Senate, and the Cal State LA University Times.

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Date

Nadia Syed
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Date

Ejmin Hakobian
President
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Date

Joselyn Diaz
Secretary/Treasurer
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Date