

Resolution in Favor of the Construction of a New Music Center

WHEREAS, the School of Music has a vibrant music program, offering undergraduate, masters, and doctoral degrees in music; as well as joint degrees with several other programs at the University of Florida and large-enrollment general education courses in the humanities; and

WHEREAS, resulting from overall outdated design and years of deferred maintenance, the Music Building, built in the late 1960s, does not meet basic working and studying conditions and poses in many instances a health hazard for faculty and students; and

WHEREAS these problems have been well-documented by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), an accreditation institution, and by a report commissioned by the University of Florida's Physical Plant Division in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the renovation costs to bring the Music Building to 21st-century standards, which even if completed would still not provide adequate teaching and learning spaces (by design, only about half of the building's square footage is usable); and

WHEREAS, the cost of renovation and the addition of a required Recital Hall would be nearly as expensive as a new building; and

WHEREAS, state funds for maintenance have not been available and it is unlikely that additional funds will be forthcoming, and as it has been observed, individual donors rarely donate funds toward the renovation of old structures, preferring instead new, named constructions;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT:

The Faculty Senate of the University of Florida, on behalf of the faculty of the University of Florida, supports the construction of a new [to be named] Music Center, compatible with the demands of the music program at the University of Florida, and the expected standards of NASM and similar AAU universities.