

1 February 9, 2012

2 **S.R. 1112**

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4 **Title: In Support of Creating Unofficial Online Transcripts**

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6 **WHEREAS,** The Commission of 125 states “Effective academic advising is crucial to the goal
7 of increasing the four-year graduation rate;” and,

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9 **WHEREAS,** The Commission of 125 states “Informed advising can help students avoid
10 enrolling in courses that do not fulfill degree requirements and can also enrich
11 learning by tailoring The University experience to the needs and interests of
12 individual students;” and,

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14 **WHEREAS,** Unofficial online transcripts would assist students in developing four-year plans
15 by allowing them to self-monitor their goals, options, and opportunities both
16 within the university and outside of the university acting as a supplemental tool to
17 the Interactive Degree Audit currently in place; and,

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19 **WHEREAS,** Being explicitly informed about one’s academic progress can provide a better
20 incentive to graduate on time; and,

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22 **WHEREAS,** Unofficial online transcripts would allow students to better plan unique, post-
23 college paths in academia, research, or the workforce by way of being more
24 informed about their educational progress; and,

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26 **WHEREAS,** Unofficial online transcripts would improve the quality of meetings between
27 students and advisors and allow for more focused discussion about students’
28 future plans due to both parties being more informed about the student’s
29 educational progress; and,

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31 **WHEREAS,** Unofficial online transcripts containing information about courses, grades, GPA,
32 and degree(s) would encourage positive planning for the future, while allowing
33 students to remain pragmatic and realistic about their educational successes; and,

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35 **WHEREAS,** Unofficial online transcripts would not over-burden the Office of the Registrar as
36 they are already required to maintain updated transcripts indicating student’s
37 courses, grades, GPA, and degree(s); and,

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39 **WHEREAS,** The use of these electronic transcripts would conveniently expedite the current
40 process in which students are required to go to the Registrar’s office; and
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42 **WHEREAS**, Seven of UT’s comparison schools already offer unofficial transcripts either
43 electronically or in print that allow for academic history to be viewed which
44 enhances student responsibility over education; and,
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46 **WHEREAS**, Unofficial online transcripts are preferable to unofficial hard copy transcripts due
47 to the comparably lower costs and time needed to access online transcripts;
48 therefore, be it,
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50 **RESOLVED**, Unofficial online transcripts should be made available to current students enrolled
51 at the University of Texas informing them of their current and previous courses,
52 grades, GPA, and degree(s); and, be it further
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54 **RESOLVED**, Unofficial online transcripts should be “issued to students,” intended for student
55 use only, including scholarships, financial aid, insurance purposes, requests by
56 employers etc; and, be it further
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58 **RESOLVED**, Students should be able to access their archived unofficial online transcripts until
59 they graduate; and, be it further
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61 **RESOLVED**, That this resolution be sent to Shelby Stanfield, Associate Vice President for
62 Student Affairs, Registrar, Dan Knauft, Associate Registrar, Gretchen Ritter, Vice
63 Provost

64 **Authors:** Stephen Michael Vincent (At-Large, Curriculum Committee; Senate of College
65 Councils)

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