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3 **The Student Association of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma**

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5 Author: Business and Social Sciences Ward *Senator* Korbyn Peebles

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7 **Student Government Affirmation on “Consensual Romantic Relations Between Faculty**
8 **and Students in the University”**

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10 WHEREAS: The Student Government Association Senate is the representative body for the
11 students of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma and are the unified
12 voice that affirms students’ concerns; and,

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14 WHEREAS: USAO is a small institution that advocates for interdisciplinary studies, and the
15 standard in which many other universities within Oklahoma hold, including OU,
16 OSU, and Rose State College prohibits all faculty-student sexual relationship that
17 in any way could influence a student’s academic success. It stands that academic
18 units of USAO are intimately tied because of our interdisciplinary mission and the
19 size of our school. Therefore, any sexual relationship between faculty and a student
20 would be extremely difficult to pursue while maintaining ethical integrity, and,

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22 WHEREAS: Stated by the “Consensual Romantic Relations Between Faculty and Students in the
23 University”, “The relationship between faculty and student is central to the
24 academic mission of the University. No, non-academic or personal ties should be
25 allowed to interfere with the integrity of the faculty-student relationship.
26 Consensual sexual relations between faculty and student can adversely affect the
27 academic enterprise by distorting judgments and providing incentives or
28 disincentives that are inappropriate.” , and,

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30 WHEREAS: The potential for a sexual relationship to be detrimental to student or to other students
31 as defined by the Consensual Policy within the Faculty Handbook, between a faculty
32 member and a student, far outweighs any benefits, and,

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34 WHEREAS: Any sexual relationship between faculty and a current student creates an atmosphere
35 that effects the entire University and can establish a precedent for inappropriate
36 conduct across all faculty-student relationships, and,

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39 WHEREAS: The Student Government Association believes that any sexual relationship between
40 faculty and student, or with staff and student should be openly discouraged by the
41 institution.

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NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA THAT:

SECTION 1: The resolution presented by the Faculty Association, “Consensual Romantic Relations Between Faculty and Students in the University” should be reintroduced at the next Faculty Association meeting, passed without presidential veto, and enforced by the University as soon as possible with the support of the Student Government Association and the unified voice of students they represent

SECTION 2: Copies of this act shall be distributed to the following:
All current members of the USAO Student Government Association (SGA) Senate, all current members of the SGA Executive Council, all current members of the SGA Supreme Court, and all current advisors of the SGA. Additional copies will be distributed to all current members of the Faculty Association, The President of the University, The USAO Board of Regents, The Vice President for Academic Affairs, and The Dean of Students

SECTION 4: Copies of this act shall be distributed electronically through the USAO-News Mailing list by SGA Advisor Kelli Monore with the subject line reading, “SGA Sexual Relationship Resolution” and a paragraph within the email introducing the resolution reading, “ This Resolution is an affirmation of the “Consensual Romantic Relations Between Faculty and Students in the University” that was presented during the March Faculty Association meeting and passed by the Faculty Association senate majority. With this resolution, SGA strongly recommends that the “Consensual Romantic Relations Between Faculty and Students in the University” resolution be reintroduced at the next Faculty Association meeting and passed without presidential veto.
The Student Government Association functions best when the student body is both informed and active in the wellbeing of the institution. As such, we invite you to attend our weekly meetings on Thursdays, from 11:05-11:35am in the Davis amphitheater, and speak to any senator about concerns or ideas that you may have at any time.”

Karlie Bonds
Jamilyn Alexander

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SGA President

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