

PASCAL Preservation Resolution

Submitted By:

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Purpose: To support the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education in their efforts to restore the funding of PASCAL and urge the South Carolina state Legislature to restore PASCAL's funding to viable levels.

Whereas, PASCAL is a state-wide consortium of academic libraries of which Furman is a part, and

Whereas, PASCAL's rapid book delivery system creates a virtual library of over ten million volumes and its electronic resources gives students cost effective access to an array of online academic resources , and

Whereas, the South Carolina State Legislature reduced the PASCAL budget ninety percent (90%) from two million dollars (\$2,000,000) a year to two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) a year in comparison to the average state budget cut of three percent (3%), and

Whereas, this drastic budget reduction has caused PASCAL to discontinue access to several of its major databases, reduce the frequency of deliveries by forty percent (40%), and significantly increase dues and fees, and

Whereas, without a restoration in funding, major cuts will occur in 2008-2009, and PASCAL will cease to exist in 2009-2010, and

Whereas, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education has requested \$2.3 million dollars in additional funding for PASCAL, and

Whereas, the South Carolina state legislature has the ability to act on this request and restore PASCAL to its full operational capacity and functionality, and

Whereas, Furman University has significant interest in seeing the PASCAL system restored and relies upon it for many vital resources. Therefore,

Be it enacted, by the Thirty Eighth Council of the Association of Furman Students the following:

That, the Association of Furman Students on the behalf of the students of Furman University strongly encourages the South Carolina State Legislature to place education and higher education at the top of their priorities, and urges The General Assembly to pass appropriate funding for PASCAL.