

Approved by acclamation 4/26/05

AR: 2  
Title: Resolution in Support of the Establishment of an International Relations Major at the University of Texas  
Stage: IN SESSION - 04/15/2005  
Owner: Danielle Rugoff  
Modified: 2005-04-26

001| **Whereas** [1]International Relations is the study of the relations among states and  
002| other political and economic units in the international system. Particular areas  
003| of study within the field of international relations include diplomacy and  
004| diplomatic history, international law, international organizations, international  
005| finance and economics, and communications, among others. (1)  
006|  
007| **Whereas** [2]The mission of the University of Texas is "to achieve excellence in the  
008| interrelated areas of undergraduate education" and the core purpose is "to  
009| transform lives for the benefit of society." (2)  
010|  
011| **Whereas** [3]The University of Texas strives to maintain this mission and core  
012| purpose amidst an ever-changing climate of world affairs and increasingly  
013| interconnected global environment. Comment 1  
014|  
015| **Whereas** [4]The University of Texas has consistently adapted its programs and  
016| institutions to respond to such changes and, concurrently, committed its vast  
017| resources to maintain world-class competitiveness. Comment 2  
018|  
019| **Whereas** [5]The aim of an International Relations major is to prepare students to  
020| participate and become leaders in the operation of world affairs thus qualifying  
021| it as a crucial component of the University of Texas Undergraduate Catalog.  
022|  
023| **Whereas** [6]The University of Texas currently lacks an institutionally recognized  
024| International Relations major. Comment 3  
025|  
026| **Whereas** [7]The University of Texas currently possesses the resources, both  
027| academically and organizationally, to immediately establish a highly competitive  
028| International Relations major. Comment 4  
029|  
030| **Whereas** [8]students at the LBJ school and the Graduate Assembly support the  
031| International Relations Initiative and are working on the creation of a graduate  
032| program.  
033|  
034| **Whereas** [9]Senate of College Councils at the University of Texas passed  
035| legislation in support of the creation of an International Relations program.  
036|  
037| **Therefore Be It Resolved** That the Student Government at the University of Texas at  
038| Austin encourages Liberal Arts Dean Richard Lariviere, Provost Sheldon Ekland-  
039| Olson, and the Faculty Council to support the establishment of an undergraduate  
040| International Relations major at the University of Texas.  
041|  
042| **Be It Further Resolved** That a copy of this resolution will be sent to President

# Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin

043| Faulkner, Dean Richard Lariviere, Provost Sheldon Ekland-Olson, and the Faculty  
044| Council Executive Committee.  
045|  
046|

## Footnotes

1. The Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition, 2001
2. <http://www.utexas.edu/welcome/mission.html>

## Comments

Comment

1. Strategic Initiative One of the Commission of 125 Report states: "The modern world presents challenges that our graduates must be prepared to meet. In particular, they must learn to achieve in a world made smaller by technology and even more complex by the importance of different cultures and people..The University should prepare its students for a changing and more challenging world."
2. Comparison to Official Comparison Schools and other schools within Texas (Attached)
3. International Relations coursework is currently one of several sub-fields within the Government Department—students are expected to follow one of the sub-fields as part of a Government degree.
4. See the International Relations Initiative for more information on UT resources: [www.utexas.edu/cola/international\\_relations](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/international_relations)

## Authors

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## Sponsors

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