Student Senate	SR-02-07	Status	Date
		1st Reading-Agenda Committee-	02/19/07
		2nd Reading-Senate Committee-	02/21/07
		3rd Reading-Senate Floor-	02/21/07
		4th Reading-Senate Floor-	02/28/07

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Title: The Addition of a Technological Literacy Course to the University Core Curriculum

Summary: A resolution supporting the addition of a technological literacy course to the proposed University Core Curriculum.

Whereas: Technology is defined as "the generation or use of knowledge and processes to solve problems and extend human capabilities" (Technology of All Americans Project, 1996), and;

Whereas: Technological Literacy is defined as "the ability to use, manage, assess, and understand technology" (Gallop Poll, 2004), and;

Whereas: Ball State University students should have a contemporary well rounded educational experience, and;

Whereas: Far too many people see technology as technological artifacts such as computers, cell phones, or the space shuttle – "rather than a human endeavor to adapt to or change the natural world" (ITEA, 1991), and;

Whereas: Experts in the fields of technology, engineering, and science believe that technological literacy is an essential quality for all people. Based

upon their works, it is possible to derive the characteristics of a technologically literate person or the potential outcomes of a CORE curriculum that includes a technological literacy course. These characteristics include knowledge, ways of thinking and acting, and capabilities (Shackelford, 2007), and;

Whereas: Humans have always lived in a largely technological world. Based upon changes in technology, society has even named major periods of time based upon it (e.g., Bronze Age, Iron Age, Industrial Revolution, and Information Age). Because people live in an ever advancing technological world and their actions/decisions have global consequences, living and learning in the Twenty-First Century requires much more than what students can glean from traditional core subject areas (Shackelford, 2007), and;

Whereas: Technology affects almost every phase of our current and future lives. It enables people to perform their daily tasks and supports their ability to make informed, responsible decisions that affect them as individuals, society as a whole, and the environment. "Citizens of today must have a basic understanding of how technology affects their world and how they exist both within and around technology" (Executive Summary, 2003, p. 4). In the past, society could afford to let its citizens develop their technological literacy through their daily lives. However, the demands of our current society and educational system can no longer leave this to happenstance. It is neither desirable nor effective (Executive Summary, 2003). Technological literacy is a new basic and should become an integral portion of a new CORE curriculum (Shackelford, 2007), and;

Whereas: The world is becoming more technologically based everyday and technological literacy is the best way for all students to prepare themselves to play an active role in society upon graduation from college (Governor Daniels, 2007).

Therefore be it Resolved That: The Ball State University Student Government Association strongly supports the addition of a Technological Literacy course to the new University Core Curriculum.

References

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