

1 Title: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A FIVE YEAR GOAL FOR MENTAL**  
2 **HEALTH PARITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**

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4 Sponsored and written by: Dave Brown (GPSS President) and Sarah Reyneveld (GPSS  
5 Vice-President)

6 Resolution Number: 6.07-08

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8 WHEREAS, Student mental health is a critical issue for both student wellness and  
9 campus-wide safety; and

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11 WHEREAS, Students at the University of Washington lack accessible and affordable  
12 mental health treatment options; and

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14 WHEREAS, The current student to mental health professional ratio at the University of  
15 Washington is 1: 2,273; and

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17 WHEREAS, The International Associate for Counseling Services recommends a  
18 university mental health staff to student ratio of 1:1,000-1,500 students; and

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20 WHEREAS, A 2006 National Survey of Counseling Center Directors reported an average  
21 university mental health staff to student ratio of 1:1,698; and

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23 WHEARAS, To achieve parity with the national average, the University of Washington  
24 would need to add minimum of four to seven additional counselors;

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26 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

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28 THAT, The University of Washington should make as both a budget and planning  
29 priority the goal that within the next five years, the University of Washington will  
30 achieve parity in its student to mental health provider ratio.

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32 THAT, The University of Washington should improve efforts to inform students of their  
33 mental health treatment options, and remove barriers to student access of those options.

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35 THAT, The University of Washington should ensure that mental health services are both  
36 accessible and affordable to University of Washington students.

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38 *Presented to GPSS for approval on March 3, 2008*

39 *Approved on March 5, 2008*