

A Joint Resolution

From the Student Government Associations of Northern Vermont University
To the Vermont General Assembly
May 6th, 2020

We, the students of Northern Vermont University, represented through the Student Government Associations of NVU-Johnson and Lyndon, have come together to create this statement. These Associations are dedicated to promoting the educational, social, and general welfare of the students on each campus. We are essential in creating leadership opportunities, maintaining fiscal responsibility for student-run events and clubs, and ensuring student's voices are heard.

The goal of the VSCS is to provide affordable higher education opportunities to families inside Vermont and to create attractive, yet affordable destinations to out-of-staters. We cannot afford to leave behind an entire region of families located in Vermont's Northern Tier who depend on accessible and affordable higher education, and will not be able to afford to continue elsewhere. If the system is not here to support those exact students and families that would be left behind by campus closures, then what is it for?

The Student Government Associations across NVU have conducted constituent outreach, and there seems to be two common themes from the responses received. The first group of students indicate that they will not be able to afford to continue their education elsewhere if we experience closures of NVU, whether they be commuters or people who rely on jobs in the towns they go to school in to fund their education. This would eliminate the ability of these students to blossom into bright young members of the Vermont state workforce, a primary mission of the Vermont legislature over the years.

For the second group of students, closing down Northern Vermont University due to inadequate funding could be the final tipping point to get them to leave the state and look elsewhere to finish their education and pursue a career. While this is very true among out of state students who came for the school they fell in love with, it is also true that many Vermonters are looking at uprooting themselves if these schools do not remain.

We, the students of Northern Vermont University, are formally requesting:

- A \$25 Million One-Year Bridge Fund. This Bridge Fund is integral to give all of the VSCS campuses another year with ample time for thoughtful planning and creative solutions.
- A Formal Commitment of Future Funding. An additional \$25 million on top of our current annual appropriation will ensure the future of accessible higher education in Vermont.

The Northern Vermont University student bodies have made their voices heard, and it is clear that there is a statewide rejection to closing down schools in the Vermont State College System. 50,000 people have signed a student-driven [petition](#) in support of NVU and the VSCS. We need

to supply these institutions with greater funding. The campuses of NVU have been able to provide specialized programming to both Vermonters and future Vermonters. Will you commit to preserving the future of Northern Vermont University?

On Behalf of All NVU Students,

**Northern Vermont University-Johnson
Student Government Association**

Jesse Streeter, President

Calvin Mercy, Vice President

Melissaann Clark, Treasurer

Chrystal Cox, Director of Clubs

Robert Ferullo, Senator

Mikaela Magnant, Senator

Luke Buglion-Gluck, Senator

**Northern Vermont University-Lyndon
Student Government Association**

Katherine Henriques, President

Benjamin Mitchell, Executive Vice President

Patrick Wickstrom, Financial Controller

Renee Chaples, Class of 2023
Representative

Lauren Hyde, American Meteorological
Society Representative

Kelsey Emery, Campus Activities Board
Representative

Becca Fauteux, The Critic Representative

Radek Przygodzki, Cultural Ambassadors
Society Representative

David Pardy, Lyndon Gaming Community
Representative

Elijah Clarke, LyndonHEIM Representative

Lauryn Brown, Genealogy Club
Representative

Alexandra Huff, Model U.N. Representative

Dakotah Luebbert, NVUnity Representative

Lauren Cornell, Resident Assistant
Representative

Faith Poirier, Student Athlete Advisory
Committee Representative

Jesse Munroe, Student Investment Club
Representative

Curtis Bates, Twilight Players
Representative

Alex DaSilva, Ultimate Frisbee
Representative

Peter R. Cormier, WWLR 91.5FM
Representative

Dance Ensemble

Kingdom Crescendos A Capella

Music Entertainment and Industry Student
Association

Outing Club

Rugby Club

Ski & Ride Club