

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN EARMARK IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR
BRUIN CUBBIES ON CAMPUS**

WHEREAS, The 2020-2021 national Healthy Minds survey from 2020-21 identified that more than 60% of college students identified having at least one mental health problem;¹ and,

WHEREAS, “Emotional stress” was noted by 76% of undergraduate students as a reason to consider dropping out from their degree program;² and,

WHEREAS, UCLA students identified anxiety and stress as two of the highest factors that negatively impact their academic performance;³ and,

WHEREAS, to help students combat these mental health and stress issues, UCLA and other college campuses are offering “education and skill-building aimed at preventing and mitigating less severe instances of stress that can lead to more serious mental health issues;”⁴ and,

WHEREAS, for FY22, UCLA received a BruinHub Community Program Funds earmark, awarded by then Senator Feinstein and Senator Padilla; and,

WHEREAS, the UCLA Government and Community Relations Team at UCLA is advancing a complementary Bruin Cubbies initiative to further BruinHub; and,

WHEREAS, Bruin Cubbies will provide UCLA students with individual or small group spaces and/or pods that are private, noise-reducing, and fully enclosed.

WHEREAS, Bruin Cubbies’ pods offer a comfortable, ventilated booth environment with power, seating, and a writing surface that students can use to study, engage in advising sessions, connect virtually with a classmate or instructor, attend a tele-health appointment, perform a virtual interview, take care of personal business, or participate in other activities that promote learning and student success; and,

WHEREAS, Bruin Cubbies will be positioned at various campus locations and will offer a unique student support and well-being opportunity for students. Bruin Cubbies; and,

¹ Sarah Ketchen Lipson, et al., Trends in college student mental health and help-seeking by race/ethnicity: Findings from the national healthy minds study, 2013-2021. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, Vol. 306, 2022

² Stephanie Marken, *A Third of U.S. College Students Consider Withdrawing*, (Gallup Blog, April 27, 2022)

³ American College Health Association, *National College Health Assessment III -Spring 2023 at the University of California Los Angeles*, 2023.

⁴ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; Health and Medicine Division; Policy and Global Affairs; Board on Health Sciences Policy; Board on Higher Education and Workforce; Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Wellbeing in STEMM Undergraduate and Graduate Education; Scherer LA, Leshner AI, editors. *Mental Health, Substance Use, and Wellbeing in Higher Education: Supporting the Whole Student*. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 2021 Jan 13. 3, Environments to Support Wellbeing for All Students.

WHEREAS, Bruin Cubbies aims to provide all Bruins with the ability to more confidently participate in academic, personal, and professional aspects of their UCLA experience and, ultimately, support their mental health and well-being so they can excel and thrive; and,

WHEREAS, Currently, there are no such spaces on campus, often necessitating that students take personal meetings in public; and,

WHEREAS, Bruin Cubbies would support student mental health and well-being efforts by providing quiet and enclosed spaces where students have a higher level of personal comfort and assurance of privacy when they engage in activities that support their academic goals at UCLA; and,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, UCLA USAC supports the UCLA Government & Community Relations (GCR) Team's request for \$500,000 in Congressional Community Project Funding from the FY25 budget, which will provide the startup funding for UCLA to establish the Bruin Cubbies Initiative.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, USAC requests that UCLA's External Vice President, UCLA GCR, and other entities which lobby U.S. federal legislators, include this budget ask in all federal lobby meetings associated with FY25 appropriations.