



<b>Resolution Number:</b>	<b>F-19-02</b>	<b>Sponsored By:</b>	Senator Ari Nitzkin
<b>Introduced On:</b>	<b>17 October 2019</b>		
<b>Voted On:</b>	<b>24 October 2019</b>		
<b>Result:</b>	<b>Passed</b>		
<b>Vote Count:</b>	<b>Unanimous</b>		

**A RESOLUTION TO:** Support the Creation of a Prayer/Meditation Center on the Cook-Devos Center for Health Sciences Campus in Room 166.

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**Recognizing**, that the mission statement for inclusion and equity at GVSU is as follows, “Through collaboration, consultation, and leadership with students, faculty, staff, administrators and community partners, the Division of Inclusion and Equity advances GVSU’s social justice framework for equity and inclusion. The division coordinates sustainable and strategic institutional efforts to engage all members of the community while also intentionally supporting and advocating for historically underrepresented communities. The division’s work furthers the university’s liberal education and student-centered mission.”<sup>1</sup>

**Recognizing**, that there is currently no prayer room available to students and staff in the area.

**Recognizing**, that people have classes close to their designated time of prayer and need an appropriate place to practice their faith downtown.

**Recognizing**, that GVSU does not offer transportation for places of prayer and that there is no prayer center in the area.

**Recognizing**, that GVSU’s students and faculty come from a vast diversity of backgrounds and it is important to accommodate everyone’s religious needs.

**Recognizing**, that an absence of a prayer room on the medical campus is in conflict with the mission statement of inclusion and equity at GVSU.

**Whereas**, the absence of a prayer room can cause discomfort for students who are devoted to their faith and without a place to practice on campus near their required classes.

**Recognizing**, that while we are all insiders of our own ideas of faith, we are outsiders to other people’s ideas of faith and therefore must make sure to be fair and inclusive of all faiths to the greatest extent possible.

**Let It Be Resolved**, that the Grand Valley State University Student Senate strongly encourages GVSU to open a new prayer room in the Cook-Devos Health Center by Winter of the 2019-2020 school year.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gvsu.edu/inclusion/>