

Rationale for SENATE RESOLUTION 04-25-26

All,

The Undergraduate Student Government (USG) is the voice and governing body for the undergraduate student community at the University of Akron. It has been brought to the attention of the Undergraduate Student Government that there is a need for consistent, permanent signage throughout the main corridors and walkways of the University of Akron campus. Many areas currently lack clear directional or informational signage, making it difficult for new students, alumni, and visitors to easily navigate campus facilities.

The implementation of permanent, high-quality signs that align with the existing architectural and aesthetic design of the University would promote both functionality and visual cohesion across campus spaces. These signs should be designed to match the University's established branding and color palette, ensuring that they blend seamlessly with the surrounding environment while remaining visible and accessible to all.

By establishing a uniform signage system, the University would enhance wayfinding for new and returning students, prospective families, alumni, and community members attending campus events. This initiative would also support campus safety by providing clear navigation in high-traffic areas and during emergencies. Implementing permanent signage will create a more welcoming, navigable campus environment, reinforcing the University of Akron's commitment to accessibility, organization, and aesthetic excellence.

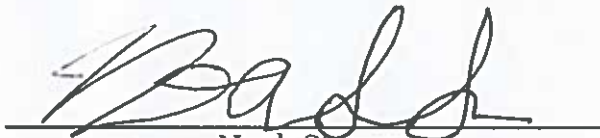
Respectfully,



Genevieve Shelton
Senator At-Large



Garin Prough
Senator for the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences



Noah Sterns
Senator At-Large



Brooklynn Moore
Senator for the College of Health and Human Sciences

LEGISLATION NO.: SR 04-25-26

SUBJECT: Camou
s Signs

REVIEWED BY COMMITTEE: Student Engagement

ON: Nov, 12, 2025

SPONSORS: Shelton, Prough, Sterns, Moore

DATE INTRODUCED: Nov 20, 2025

A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE INSTALLMENT OF SIGNAGE NOTING KEY PATHWAYS AND LOCATIONS ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

WHEREAS: MANY AREAS ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON CAMPUS LACK CONSISTENT, PERMANENT SIGNAGE THAT CLEARLY DIRECTS STUDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS THROUGH MAJOR CORRIDORS AND WALKWAYS; AND

WHEREAS: THE ABSENCE OF UNIFORM SIGNAGE CAN CREATE CONFUSION AND MAKE NAVIGATION DIFFICULT, PARTICULARLY FOR NEW STUDENTS, PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES, ALUMNI, AND COMMUNITY GUESTS ATTENDING EVENTS ON CAMPUS; AND

WHEREAS: THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDS THAT THE UNIVERSITY COLLABORATE WITH FACILITIES MANAGEMENT, GROUNDS KEEPING, AND THE OFFICE OF ACCESSIBILITY TO DETERMINE KEY LOCATIONS FOR PLACEMENT, ENSURE ADA COMPLIANCE, AND MAINTAIN CONSISTENCY WITH CURRENT CAMPUS DESIGN STANDARDS;

BE IT RESOLVED: THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT URGES THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE INSTALLATION OF PERMANENT, ADA-COMPLIANT SIGNAGE THAT ENHANCES CAMPUS NAVIGATION WHILE PRESERVING THE COHESIVE AESTHETIC AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT OF OUR UNIVERSITY.

_____, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT SENATE CONFIRMS SAID ADOPTION OF THIS [RESOLUTION/BILL] BY A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF SENATE AS A WHOLE.

ACTION TAKEN BY SENATE: Passed



USG SENATE CHAIR

11/20/25
DATE



USG PRESIDENT

11/21/25
DATE

Thank you to the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) for thoughtfully identifying key opportunities to enhance campus accessibility and navigation. As Director of the Office of Accessibility, I fully support exploring the proposed improvements to both physical signage and digital mapping tools, particularly those that prioritize navigation through known accessible routes.

These recommendations reflect our shared commitment to creating an inclusive, welcoming, and easily navigable campus for all students, visitors, and community members. Permanent signage designed with universal design principles will significantly improve wayfinding for individuals with disabilities—including, but not limited to, those with visual impairments, cognitive challenges, and mental health conditions—as well as anyone unfamiliar with our campus layout.

Likewise, enhancing existing navigation tools—such as the UAkron mobile app—and other digital maps with accessibility-focused features like audio navigation, ADA-compliant route indicators, and real-time updates will empower students with mobility challenges, sensory sensitivities, and anxiety-related conditions to navigate campus with confidence and safety.

I look forward to collaborating with campus partners to advocate for and advance these meaningful improvements.

Warm Regards,

Jessica DeFago, MA

Director
Office of Accessibility
The University of Akron