



# The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

S.R. 73-04

Texas A&M University  
The Student Senate  
73rd Session

## Aggie Strong Resolution

*"A resolution to solicit a collaboration between the Student Senate, Texas A&M University, and the Association of Former Students for a postponed graduation ceremony, postponed ring day ceremony, and in the Aggie Spirit to continually pursue traditions in difficult times."*

Action Taken: Passed

Certified By: Zach McCue  
Zach McCue  
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: 4-29-20

**Introduced By:** Hannah Spurr, Speaker Pro Tempore, Off-Campus Caucus  
Joshua Eric Feldman, Legislative Relations, Off-Campus Caucus  
Chandler Trosclair, On-Campus Caucus

**Sponsored By:** Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs, Engineering Caucus  
Fawaz Syed, Student Services Chair, Engineering Caucus  
Sam Jefferis, Academic Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus  
Victor J. Ferro, Engineering Caucus  
Michael McKnight, Off-Campus Caucus  
Joseph Rodgers, Off-Campus Caucus  
Brogan Gunia, Off-Campus Caucus  
Aaron J. Wood, College of Engineering  
Zachary McCue, Speaker of Senate, Off-Campus Caucus

**Whereas(1):** In March 2020, Aggies watched their world shut down due to COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2, previously referred to as novel coronavirus, and colloquially known as the Coronavirus; and,

**Whereas(2):** On March 12, 2020, in an effort to protect the lives and safety of students, employees, faculty, staff, and the Bryan/College Station community, Texas A&M moved all classes to an online format; and,

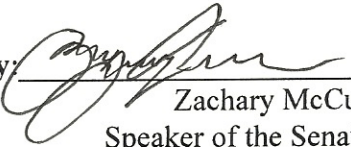


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Zachary McCue  
Speaker of the Senate

**Whereas(3):** In their effort to protect students, the administration canceled many events, such as Big Event, the Chancellor's Century Council, Ring Dance, Parents Weekend, Spring Game, Ring Day, and the May Commencement Ceremony; and

**Whereas(4):** Many times before this, hard times have hit Aggieland. Aggies watched Bonfire collapse on November 18th, 1999. Aggies watched E. King Gill step forwards as the 12th Man, when all other members of the football team had been injured, on January 2, 1922. Honoring those who were lost, during the First World War, Aggies began a roll call for the absent. The first Muster occurred on Campus at Guion Hall in 1924, honoring Aggies that had been lost in years past. Aggies witnessed Lawrence Sullivan Ross, more commonly known as 'Sully', shielded Texas A&M from closure when he arrived in February 2, 1891; and

**Whereas(5):** If not for these difficult times, Aggies would not possess the traditions we value so deeply, such as Bonfire Remembrance, standing for the 12th man, Muster, and the placement of pennies on Sully. Texas A&M is a school defined by its traditions, and without hardship, we would not have these traditions; and,

**Whereas(6):** Due to COVID-19, Aggies lost the chance to celebrate many traditions. The Aggie family is strong, and we will remain united in difficult times.

**Therefore**

**Let it be**

**Resolved(1):** The Texas A&M Student Senate, representing the 73rd sessions, is petitioning for a postponed commencement ceremony for Spring graduates, and a postponed Ring Ceremony for April ring recipients; and,

**Let it be**

**Further**

**Resolved(2):** We recognize Texas A&M University has referred to the graduation as "postponed" as stated on the graduation website<sup>1</sup>, however, we wish to see a specific plan in place, as well as communicating this plan to the student body; and,

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.tamu.edu/coronavirus/march-17-spring-graduation-ceremonies-postponed.html>

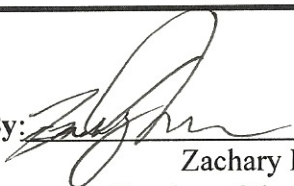


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Zachary McCue  
Speaker of the Senate

**Let it be**

**Further**

**Resolved(3):** To accomplish these things, the Senate proposes this resolution to address postponed celebrations; and,

**Let it be**

**Further**

**Resolved(4):** Concerning the postponement of commencement, we resolve in this manner: Any person who is to graduate this Spring may walk in the August commencement ceremony if they so wish. They will be mailed their diploma prior to the ceremony, but if they wish to attend the August ceremony for celebration, they may be permitted to do so; and,

**Let it be**

**Further**

**Resolved(5):** Concerning the postponement of the Ring Ceremony, we resolve in this manner: Any person who was to receive their Aggie Ring this April, may participate in the September 2020 Ring Ceremony festivities. They will be mailed their Aggie Ring in advance to the September Ceremony, as they have rightly earned and purchased their ring to be picked up in April. However, for Aggies who were to receive their rings, they will be afforded the opportunity to be celebrated in the manner they were to be at Aggie Ring Day, on a later date.

**Let it be**

**Further**

**Resolved(6):** If there is still eminent danger from COVID-19 at the postponed dates we have suggested, we urge Texas A&M University and the Association of Former Students to pursue another method of celebration for these hardworking and deserving Aggies; and,

**Let it be**

**Further**

**Resolved(7):** The 73rd Session of Student Senate recognizes and comprehends that the petition of these two postponed ceremonies is a large feat. However, as the voice of the student body, we found this necessary, and just. We recognize the thousands of Aggies who worked tirelessly for years being denied their accomplishments due to COVID-19, and ask for them to be considered during this extremely difficult time. Aggies do not step back, they are “fearless on every front”. Therefore, the Student Senate pledges to collaborate and compromise with



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Speaker of the Senate

Texas A&M University, and The Association of Former Students with any means necessary. We are the Aggies, the Aggies are we.

**Let it be  
Further**

**Resolved(8):** A copy of this resolution be sent to:

*Chancellor Sharp*

*President Michael K. Young*

*Dr. Carol Fierke, Provost*

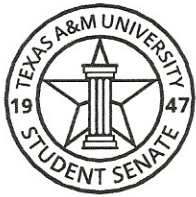
*Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President of Student Affairs*

*Porter S. Garner III, President and CEO of The Association of Former Students*

*The Battalion*

*The Eagle*

*Board of Regents*



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Zachary McCue

Speaker of the Senate

**Further Sponsored by:** Carly Oldag, Community Relations, COALS Caucus

Meghan Hein, Rules and Regulations, COALS Caucus

Megha Viswanath, Off-Campus Caucus

Alexia Hernandez, Liberal Arts Caucus

Dylan Bohn, Mays Caucus

Erin Steglich, Off-Campus Caucus

Tyler Smith, COALS Caucus

Tate Banks, Former Senator

Kerri Marbut, Executive Director of Operations

Cole Allen, Mays Caucus

Dang Dang, Off Campus

Blake Martin, Liberal Arts Caucus

David Garcia, Off Campus Caucus

Mariana Montes, Liberal Arts Caucus

Emily Lucas, Ed and Human Development Caucus

Helena MacCrossan, On Campus Caucus

Jack Merritt, On Campus Caucus

Holden Tumlinson, College of Geosciences

Dylan Sione, Off Campus Caucus

Luke Kerr, Engineering Caucus

Aariana Myles, Off Campus Caucus

Kieran Tillis, Engineering Caucus

Bryan Marin, Vet Med and Biomedical Sciences Caucus

Ricky Watson, Off Campus Caucus

Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus

Iman Ahmed, Diversity and Inclusion, Off Campus Caucus

Alina Corpus, Engineering Caucus

Wyatt Harlan, Off Campus Caucus