



Executive Order 2223-014

Order to Promote Accessibility on Campus and within the Student

Government Association

Thursday, March 23, 2023

By the authority vested in me as President of the Butler University Student Government Association, and in order to promote greater accessibility to campus buildings and resources, it is hereby ordered that:

Section 1: Mission

The Student Government Association will show its commitment to promoting matters of accessibility, the F*** Stairs campaign, and Bulldogs for Universal Design. This organization will condemn the hate present on social media that has plagued this campaign and individuals who are taking part in it.

Section 2: Rationale

The Student Government Association and my administration have made efforts this year to prioritize accessibility on campus and to build meaningful relationships with both student advocates and administration officials that oversee such issues. At the start of this year, I had amendments made to the Student Government Association Executive Branch Rules and Procedures that placed Bulldogs for Universal Design on the Executive Cabinet Advisory Board as a permanent member. In addition, this past December, I was proud to sign Senate Resolution 2223-052, which allocated \$2,000.00 for the F*** Stairs campaign. These efforts have made a positive impact on campus, but there is still more that can be done by our organization.

On March 20, 2023, Bulldogs for Universal Design posted on Instagram a call for the Student Government Association to take several small steps that will have large impacts

on our Student Body. In keeping with the Student Government Association's commitment to accessibility and ensuring student belonging on campus, I believed it vital to take decisive action to fulfill this call and to advocate for Butler University to do the same.

Section 3: Implementation

Bulldogs for Universal Design made three calls upon the Student Government Association:

- I. **Utilize image descriptions and alt text as well as captioning**
- II. **Produce screen reader accessible documents or Braille materials**
- III. **Make a commitment to advocacy**

These are requests easily fulfilled, and ones that can make a significant impact on campus. By performing these changes, we can ensure that the Student Government Association is accessible to more of the Student Body.

Effective immediately, I order the Public Relations Board to begin using image descriptions, alt text, captioning, and other accessibility aids on all future Student Government Association materials, with particular reference to our forward facing platforms such as Instagram, @butler.sga, and our website, ButlerSGA.org.

In addition, I order the Public Relations Board to explore Screen Reader accessible or Braille materials for documents created and released by this organization, and to find a method in which we can ensure all such information is equally accessible to every student on campus. After conducting appropriate research, I order the Public Relations Board to implement a method to address this issue as soon as possible.

Lastly, I would like to reaffirm the Student Government Association's commitment to accessibility on campus. Throughout this year my administration has worked with the University Operations, the Butler University Police Department, the Division of Student



Affairs, and others to bring issues of accessibility to the forefront of conversations. At this time, the Student Government Association calls upon the university administration to recognize the goals of Bulldogs for Universal Design, including:

- I. Create an Accessibility Compliance Office**
- II. Utilize image descriptions and alt text as well as captioning**
- III. Continue efforts to create sidewalk Curb Cuts**
- IV. Increase university ability-based diversity trainings**
- V. Reform the bias report process**
- VI. Integrate evacuation assistance into the Dawg Alert system**

Through these efforts, it is hoped that accessibility on campus can be increased and key actors can be made aware of the problems faced by students on campus that creates inequitable access to vital services, resources, and information.

Section 4: Information for Students

On a sobering note, some reactions to Bulldogs for Universal Design's F*** Stairs campaign have contained vile statements and hate, particularly on social media. These kinds of reactions are unacceptable on our campus. Students should work to build each other up, not tear each other down. Promote issues that need to be addressed, not dismiss them with insults. While the F*** Stairs campaign has received great amounts of positive feedback, this does not distract from the appalling statements made by some behind the veil of anonymity. It is only together that we can work to ensure that all on this campus are treated equally, and it is division that prevents us from meaningful change.

Before dismissing the F*** Stairs campaign, I call upon the Student Body to look into what it means, to see and understand the significance. I myself have signed the F*** Stairs Pledge, and I would encourage every student on this campus to do so as well.



Section 5: Authority

Under Article IV Section 10 of the Student Government Association Constitution, the Student Body President holds the authority to “issue Executive Orders to forward the goals of the organization as a whole and of the presidential administration”. This order is subject to actions by the Student Senate as laid out by Article IV Section 10 of the Constitution and is subject to Judicial Review in accordance with Article IV Sections 10 and 11 of the Constitution.



Cade Chezem, Student Body President
Signed and effective 1:00 pm, March 23, 2023

