

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
GRADUATE SENATE SESSION GF08  
November 16, 2008

SENATE BILL No. GF08-32

AS INTRODUCED

A resolution commending President David Boren, Kurt Davidson, Matthew Gress, UOSA Student Congress, College Republicans, Young Democrats, and the Carl Albert Center for their tireless work on the “OU Votes” initiative.

WHEREAS: On November 4th, approximately 24 million 18-29 year olds cast ballots in the historic 2008 presidential election, a turnout rate of 54.5%, up nearly 6 percentage points from 2004; and,

WHEREAS: Across the country, young voters’ turnout made a significant impact on close races in battleground states. In Virginia, North Carolina, Colorado, and other states, young people propelled Barack Obama to victory. Nationwide, 66% of 18-29 year olds voted for the President-Elect; state-by-state, this strong support made the difference in a number of contests; and,

WHEREAS: At the University of Oklahoma, President David Boren helped kick off the largest voter registration drive in OU’s history – speaking to more than 100 students on September 15th in Nielson Hall; and,

WHEREAS: Kurt Davidson, Matthew Gress, and various members of UOSA Student Congress, College Republicans, Young Democrats, and the Carl Albert Center worked tirelessly over the next few weeks to put together the “OU Votes” initiative and register over 2,350 students – working with a coalition of more than 20 groups and earning statewide recognition from the Oklahoma Campus Compact; and,

WHEREAS: The “OU Votes” initiative concluded with a watch party on November 4th in the Oklahoma Memorial Union – where more than 400 people showed up to observe the election returns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE:

SECTION 1. The Graduate Student Senate commends President David Boren for his support of the “OU Votes” initiative.

SECTION 2. The Graduate Student Senate commends Kurt Davidson and Matthew Gress for their tireless work planning, coordinating, organizing and implementing the “OU Votes” initiative.

SECTION 3. The Graduate Student Senate commends the members of UOSA Student Congress, College Republicans, Young Democrats, and the Carl Albert Center for their drive, energy, and enthusiasm in helping make the “OU Votes” initiative a resounding success.

SECTION 4. Copies of this resolution shall be sent to:

President David Boren  
Kurt Davidson  
Matthew Gress  
UOSA Student Congress  
College Republicans  
Young Democrats  
Carl Albert Center  
The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education  
The Board of Regents for the University of Oklahoma  
*The Oklahoma Daily*

Author: Graduate Student Senate Executive Council

Submitted on a motion by: Sen. Garner, seconded by Sen. Miller

Action taken by Senate: Passed by Consent

Verified by Chair of Senate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_