

A Resolution Calling for the Ban of Neonicotinoid Pesticides on Campus and the Certification of
UCLA as a Bee-Friendly Campus

WHEREAS, recent studies¹ have demonstrated that bees are dying at an approximate rate of 40% of all colonies each year in an epidemic which has been designated “Colony Collapse Disorder”;

WHEREAS, scientists² have identified the pesticide class known as neonicotinoids as a contributing factor to Colony Collapse Disorder and a general danger to the environment;

WHEREAS, the European Union, the State of Connecticut, the State of Maryland, the City of La Jolla, and the University of California, Santa Cruz have already restricted or banned the outdoor use of neonicotinoids;

WHEREAS, a national program is administered by the Bee City USA Initiative to certify university campuses as bee-friendly with the designation of being a “Bee Campus USA”;

WHEREAS, Bee City USA has established seven³ commitments that a campus must make to be certified bee-friendly, including: 1) “Establishing a Committee and Develop a Habitat Plan,” 2) “Host Awareness Event(s),” 3) “Sponsor and Track Student Service-Learning Projects,” 4) “Offer Pollinator-Focused Courses and/or Workshops,” 5) “Post Signage to Educate Your Campus and Broader Community,” 6) “Maintain a Web Presence to Share Your Bee Campus USA News and Activities,” and “7) Apply Annually for Renewal”;

WHEREAS, 554 students at UCLA signed petitions calling for the certification of UCLA as a bee-friendly campus;

WHEREAS, in the absence of action bees will continue to die at a high rate with significant consequences for our food supply and the environment;

WHEREAS, UCLA can set an example for the city of Los Angeles and the state of California in protecting our pollinators by banning the use of bee-killing pesticides;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the 2018-2019 USAC affirms its support for a ban of the use of neonicotinoid pesticides on the UCLA campus.

¹ <https://beeinformed.org/2016/05/10/nations-beekeepers-lost-44-percent-of-bees-in-2015-16/>

² <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/356/6345/1393>

³ <https://www.beecityusa.org/application-campus.html>

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the 2018-2019 USAC affirms its support for the transition to and certification of UCLA as a bee-friendly campus as per the seven criteria put forth by the Bee City USA Initiative.

Resolution passed 4/23/19.