



J.R. 2

Encourage Professors to Record Lectures

January 27th, 2026

Sponsors: USG Speaker Pro Tempore Edmonds, GPSG President Crabtree

Referred Committee: Academic Affairs

Legislative Action:

SECTION 1: DISCUSSION

Short Title

This resolution may be cited as “Encourage Recorded Lectures”

Whereas, the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), the Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG), and Tippie Senate believe that recorded lectures would be a valuable supplemental resource to foster a deeper understanding of course material. Recorded lectures are principally important during midterms and finals as they can improve students' academic success through enhanced ICON accessibility and alleviate academic-related stress.

Whereas, recorded lectures provide valuable, comprehensive support for students with excused absences per university policy (e.g. illness). This allows students to seamlessly catch up on missed content at their own pace.

Whereas, recorded lectures will support and sustain students' holistic well-being by enhancing personal connectedness (e.g. participation in extracurriculars) and meaningful experiences (e.g. self-care opportunities) through increased flexibility.

Whereas, recorded lectures minimize the disruption to students' academic progress caused by excused absences. This, in turn, reduces the burden on both professors and students compared to additional out-of-class meetings.

Whereas, some professors at the University of Iowa, namely those in Tippie, currently have recorded lectures available to students throughout the semester. This encourages a balanced workload and deeper student engagement with course material.

Whereas, the availability of online lectures for student-athletes can reduce their academic stress by allowing them to stay up to date with lecture content they may miss due to traveling for athletic events. This access provides the same detailed, in-person lecture information as non-student-athletes, including the professor's verbal explanation and tone.

Whereas, recorded lectures allow professors to adjust scheduled lectures around their personal or professional (e.g. conferences or research) commitments without disrupting the continuity of the course.

Whereas, recorded lectures support multimodal learning preferences through visual and auditory cues. These cues help clarify complex concepts for students and enhance retention of lecture material that may be missed in written summaries or notes alone, according to the Cognitive Theory of Multimedia Learning.

Whereas, recorded lectures can save professors time on preparation as they can conveniently reuse and repurpose lecture content as needed. This is particularly useful for distributing lecture content to students with excused absences.

Whereas, recorded lectures provide professors with heightened teaching flexibility by empowering synchronous learning (e.g. flipped classrooms) and collaboration. This allows professors to utilize class time for interactive learning activities or discussion groups.

Whereas, recorded lectures provide extra support and flexibility for students by accommodating unique learning styles, diverse learning needs, excused absences, and prolonged absences.

Whereas, recorded lectures follow the Panopto Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles, which promote a supportive and inclusive learning environment by allowing online lectures to be accessible to all.

Whereas, the University of Iowa's lecture capture system, UICapture, is widely implemented in at least 235 classrooms, and is powered by Panopto. Panopto is a platform utilized by 21 of the top 25 universities worldwide.

Whereas, recorded lectures are simple to create, use, and share via UICapture's accessibility on ICON and through the Office of Teaching Learning Technology (OTLT) UICapture workshops for faculty.

Whereas, the UICapture system is flexible to each professor's unique teaching style and approach to lecture capture and release. Importantly, professors can utilize audio-only recordings and edit or cut down recordings to support their academic freedom.

Whereas, USG senators have inquired with professors who have expressed interest in recording their lectures if in-person attendance and engagement are not reduced, which attendance tracking services aim to address (e.g. Top Hat).

Whereas, recorded lectures act exclusively as a supplemental resource to complement in-class lectures and can be withdrawn by the lecturer at any time if in-person attendance and engagement are significantly impacted, as deemed by the lecturer.

Whereas, dynamic educational opportunities, like recorded lectures, enhance students' ability to balance academic commitments, leadership responsibilities, and extracurriculars by improving access to detailed lecture content. This flexibility in managing learning under a variety of circumstances empowers students to pursue their aspirations and reach their potential.

SECTION 2: ACTION

Therefore, this resolution serves as the Undergraduate Student Government's (USG) and Tippie Senate's formal approval to encourage professors and Teaching Assistants with class sizes of 50 students or more to record and publish their lectures for circumstances in which both the student and the instructor deem necessary. This resolution also serves as the Graduate and Professional Student Government's (GPSG) formal approval to encourage professors and Teaching Assistants to record and publish their lecture-based courses for circumstances in which both the students and instructor deem necessary. Principally, the publishing of recorded lectures should be encouraged the week before midterms and finals, or at the course supervisor and the instructors' discretion.

Therefore, be it resolved, that USG, with support from GPSG and Tippie Senate, encourage faculty to record lectures so students' academic performances can continue to be strengthened. USG, GPSG, and Tippie Senate are passionate about ICON accessibility to foster higher inclusivity for students, as well as provide support and flexibility to increase understanding of lecture content. In conjunction with USG, GPSG, and Tippie Senate, this resolution shall be distributed to all colleges and departments at the University of Iowa (contact list [linked](#), for all DEOs and Deans). Finally, this resolution shall be published on the University of Iowa Undergraduate Student Government's Instagram page.

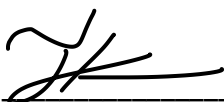
SECTION 3: ENACTMENT

Be it enacted by the Undergraduate Student Government and Graduate and Professional Student Government upon the signature of the Presidents.



Peyton Pentico

Speaker of the Senate



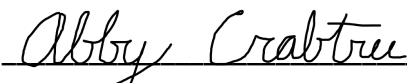
Thomas Knudsen

USG President



Nanle Gusen

GPSG Cabinet Director



Abigail Crabtree

GPSG President

Approved on January 27, 2026
