



# Student Congress

## Student Association at Binghamton University

### F2015 - 04/R: Biodiversity Protection Act

**Authors: Shashank Dimri (CIW, -PRE), Adam Wilkes (CIW-, FINCO), Justin Sagalow**  
**Sponsors: Allan Gendelman (OC3, -IA), Nicholas Ferrara (Hinman-, SLA), Che Sun (Dickinson, -FINCO), Jared Sherman (Susquehanna, -FINCO), Ali Kidwai (Hinman,- PRE), Karla**

Whereas, the deer population in the Nature Preserve and all other natural areas on campus has disrupted ecological equilibrium; and

Whereas, natural forces have failed to adequately maintain the deer population, which currently is ten-fold the forest's long-term carrying capacity per square mile; and

Whereas, there is a large consensus among the biological-academic community, including members of Binghamton University's faculty, that this disruption is already reversing the process of ecological succession, which within fifty years will inhibit tree growth and the vast majority of animal species; and

Whereas, our campus has a social responsibility to steward and protect the national environment we utilize; and

Whereas, the nature preserve has a positive impact on education and recreation on the we utilize; and

Whereas, specific plans of action to manage the deer population were developed in 2011 but have not been implemented through to 2015; and

Whereas, a potential deer cull could be carried out by organizations with experience in reducing the populations of nuisance species; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Student Association at Binghamton University urges the Binghamton University administration to take action to reduce the deer population and to continue to protect biodiversity for generations of students and local residents to come.

### **Impact Statement**

This resolution recognizes that biodiversity is under threat and administrative action is in order. This resolution's omission of a detailed plan of action is for the purpose of acknowledging that this campus discussion must be pushed and action is mandatory, but it is the ultimate jurisdiction of the Binghamton University administration to develop and execute a plan of action.