



The 4th Student Assembly

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Resolution No. 020-2425

A RESOLUTION URGING THE PHYSICAL PLANT TECHNICAL OFFICE (PPO) TO INSTALL VENDING MACHINES FOR MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS AT ATENEO DE DAVAO UNIVERSITY

Status: [Approved]
0-0-9

Introduced by:
Jhoanna Grace Cayanan
Hon. French Bandong
Hon. Sung Goon Acosta
Hon. Paula Isabelle Manuel
Hon. Rianne Calsa
Hon. Naomi Grace Lanzo
Juelianna Muhalli
Monica Andrea Rama

Language: English
Distribution: General

WHEREAS, the 2020 SAMAHAN Constitution establishes that "The SAMAHAN is the sole autonomous and highest governing body representing undergraduate students at Ateneo de Davao University; its decisions and actions must consistently reflect the voice of the student body, as all powers stem directly from and ultimately belong to the students; these powers are exercised through the governing bodies established by this Constitution;"

WHEREAS, the SAMAHAN is committed to defending and promoting the rights and general welfare of all undergraduate students at Ateneo de Davao University and of every individual, regardless of gender, religion, academic status, race, or citizenship;

WHEREAS, the initiative is supported by various international health organizations advocating for universal menstrual health access. The United Nations Women's Engage for a Common Future and the World Health Organization (WHO) have called for equitable access to menstrual hygiene products, education, and facilities as fundamental to gender equality, health, and dignity. WHO advocates for menstrual health as a right, urging educational institutions to provide safe sanitation and affordable hygiene products;

WHEREAS, the 1987 Philippine Constitution states in Article II, Section 15 that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health



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consciousness among them,” thus affirming the State’s responsibility to uphold public health and ensure access to essential health products for all citizens;

WHEREAS, the Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710) in Section 17 mandates the provision of “comprehensive, culture-sensitive, and gender-responsive health services” that specifically address the needs of women and marginalized groups, and requires that health programs and services be inclusive and equitable, ensuring justice in healthcare access;

WHEREAS, the Free Menstrual Products Act of 2023 recognizes the importance of menstrual health support in educational settings by requiring public schools to “provide free menstrual products to students” to eliminate educational barriers caused by lack of menstrual resources, and thereby supports both student health and equality in education;

WHEREAS, Davao City’s Gender and Development Code mandates the fair and equitable treatment of all individuals in accessing health and social services, promoting non-discrimination by requiring “fair and equal access” to essential services without discrimination based on gender or other personal characteristics, thereby fostering a more inclusive local governance framework;

WHEREAS, for a significant portion of the Ateneo de Davao University community, including students, faculty, and staff, menstruation is a natural and inevitable part of life. Access to menstrual hygiene products should therefore be treated as a basic right, essential for ensuring health, dignity, and comfort in a supportive academic environment;

WHEREAS, the lack of on-campus menstrual hygiene resources has caused considerable inconvenience, especially given the university’s all-white uniforms. Without reliable and readily accessible menstrual products, students have experienced discomfort, distractions, and undue embarrassment that led to disruptions in their daily activities and academic focus;

WHEREAS, a recent Pulse Survey conducted among students at Ateneo de Davao University revealed an urgent and overwhelming need for accessible menstrual hygiene products on campus. The majority of respondents rated the issue of inaccessibility as severe (4/5), as shown in Annex A. This expresses a strong desire for immediate action to address this gap in support and resources;



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WHEREAS, the survey results indicate widespread support for the installation of vending machines as a feasible and effective solution to this issue. Respondents advocate for these machines to be placed in high-traffic areas, and stocked with essential items such as various types of menstrual pads, tampons, pantyliners, and supplementary hygiene products, including tissues and wipes. There is also a strong demand to keep these products affordable, with suggestions for a price range of PHP 5-7 per item to ensure accessibility to all members of the university community;

WHEREAS, the installation of vending machines with menstrual hygiene products would cater to various needs, ensuring that all menstruators, regardless of gender, have access to appropriate products for their specific requirements. Providing easy access to these products will promote a supportive and stigma-free environment, enhancing the sense of dignity, comfort, and engagement in campus life for menstruating individuals;

WHEREAS, the initial proposed locations for these vending machines—the Arrupe Hall, Finster Hall, and Community Center of First Companions (CCFC)—are among the most frequented areas on campus, maximizing accessibility and convenience for the student body and the broader university community;

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the Physical Plant Technical Office (PPO) lead the initiative by engaging in a competitive bidding process to select a reputable vendor. This process will ensure that the vending machines meet both quality standards and cost-efficiency, making this a sustainable long-term investment for the university;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Physical Plant Technical Office (PPO) is hereby urged to prioritize the installation of vending machines stocked with menstrual hygiene products in high-traffic areas at Ateneo de Davao University, including Arrupe Hall, Finster Hall, and the Community Center of First Companions (CCFC), ensuring reliable access to a variety of essential items for the university community.

WHEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Office of Student Affairs (OSA), along with the SAMAHAN, is called upon to provide its endorsement and support for the initiative.

WHEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a meeting with the proposed main stakeholder, the Physical Plant Technical Office (PPO), shall be convened at the start of the second semester to discuss the timeframe and processes necessary prior to the installation



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of the vending machines.

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that the implementation of the installation shall occur within the second semester of the Academic Year 2024-2025, ensuring timely access to menstrual hygiene products for the university community.

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED FINALLY, that this resolution be disseminated to all relevant university departments and stakeholders to ensure swift action on this important initiative, towards a healthier and more equitable campus for all.

Approved by the 4th Student Assembly on the 13th day of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.



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Approved by:

[Sgd.] HON. FRENCH BAYER BANDONG

Head Commissioner
Commission on Students' Rights and Welfare

**[Sgd.] HON. TWINKLE RACHELLE M.
ANIÑON**

External Vice President
Social Sciences Student Executive Council

[Sgd.] HON. FRANCO MAXELL DEL RIO

External Vice President
Engineering and Architecture Student
Executive Council

**[Sgd.] HON. CZARLETTE VIANICA
ZURRIAGA**

External Vice President
Nursing Student Executive Council

[Sgd.] HON. HIDDEN ZEAL M. CORPUZ

External Vice President
Education Student Executive Council

[Sgd.] HON. PAULA ISABELLE G. MANUEL

President
POWER AdDU

[Sgd.] HON. RIANNE BUCAO CALSA

President
Ateneo Libulan Circle

[Sgd.] HON. JAN A.G. ADRIAN LARIEGO

Head Commissioner
Commission on Audit

[Sgd.] HON. ALTHEA RAAGAS

Head Commissioner
Commission on Elections



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Attested by:

[Sgd.] HON. SUNG GOON L. ACOSTA

Chairperson & Chief Convener

4th Student Assembly



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Annex A: Narrative Report of Pulse Survey

The Project C.A.R.E. Pulse Survey on Creating Access to Reproductive Essentials at Ateneo de Davao University collected responses from **451 students** to assess the need for accessible menstrual hygiene products on the campus and explore potential solutions. The results offer a comprehensive look into the experiences of the students, underscoring the urgency of providing menstrual essentials through vending machines and detailing specific suggestions to make this project both effective and sustainable for the student body.

The survey involved questions that assessed the: a) severity of the issue surrounding the lack of menstrual hygiene products, b) the urgency of addressing this issue, and c) whether installing vending machines for these essentials would be the most suitable solution. The results were telling: the majority of respondents rated the severity of inaccessibility to menstrual products as high (4 out of 5 on average), highlighting the consistent challenges that are faced by students who need the proposed essentials. Additionally, a comparable majority rated the urgency of addressing this need with a high rating of 4/5, which reflects the strong student demand for immediate action from the university.

From the respondents, many expressed the inconveniences caused by unexpected menstruation cycles, which led to discomfort, stress, and, at times, embarrassment **considering the all-white uniforms at Ateneo de Davao**. For them, running out of sanitary supplies on campus often meant having to leave university grounds, interrupting classes or study sessions just to obtain basic hygiene products. Students have expressed their clear desire for a reliable on-campus solution to mitigate these challenges and allow them to stay engaged in their academic and social activities without interruption.

Moreover, an overwhelming **majority of students supported the installation of vending machines** specifically for menstrual hygiene products as the best solution. The survey included a question on preferred product types, and respondents put forward various menstrual essentials, including different types of sanitary pads (regular, ultra-thin, and overnight), pantyliners, tampons, tissues, and wipes. This range of products would help address diverse needs, as students may have different requirements based on their menstrual flow, comfort preferences, and personal hygiene routines.

Affordability emerged as a central concern in the responses. Many students



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recommended a price range of PHP 5–7 per item, emphasizing the importance of keeping costs low to make these products accessible to all. Several students highlighted that while they support the vending machine solution, it must remain affordable to truly benefit the entire student population, particularly those who have limited financial resources. This reflects a broader desire among students to address period poverty on campus and ensure equitable access to basic hygiene resources.

The survey also asked students where they felt vending machines should be located on campus for maximum accessibility. The consensus was that high-traffic areas—Arrupe Hall, Finster Hall, and the Community Center of First Companions (CCFC)—would be ideal locations. Students explained that these areas are frequented by a large portion of the campus community, making them optimal sites for convenient and quick access to these products when needed.

In addition to providing feedback on product types and affordability, students shared recommendations on maintenance and accessibility features. Many respondents stressed the importance of regularly restocking the vending machines and maintaining them to prevent any service disruptions. Beyond addressing practical concerns, the survey responses reflected a broader impact that accessible menstrual products could have on student well-being. Many students expressed that the **availability of these resources would help reduce the stigma surrounding menstruation** and create a supportive, inclusive environment on campus. Students noted that easy access to menstrual products would empower them to participate fully in academic and social activities without anxiety or embarrassment—with the university in full support towards a campus culture that is compassionate, dignified, and aware of basic health needs.



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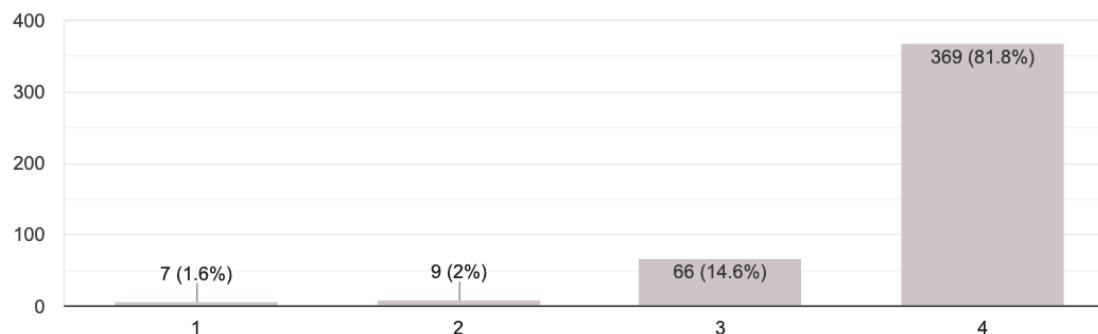
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Annex B: Summative Diagrams of the Results of the Pulse Survey

In your opinion, how severe is the issue of the lack of accessible hygiene solutions (e.g. menstrual pads, tampons, wipes) in female comfort rooms and utilities in the university?

[Copy chart](#)

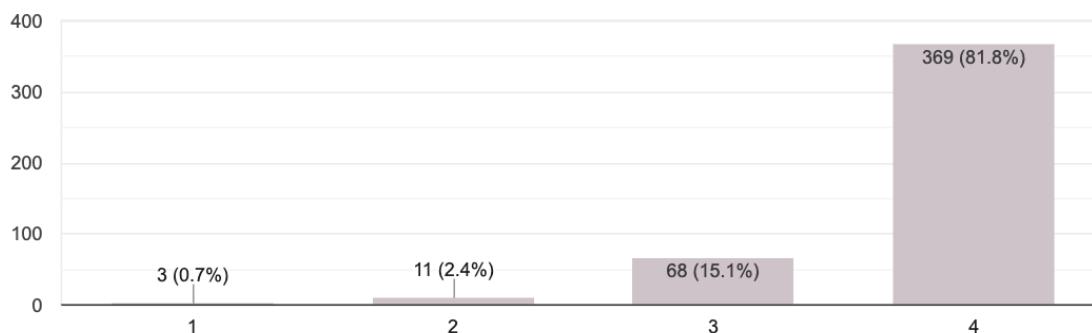
451 responses



How urgent do you believe it is for the university to address this issue?

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451 responses





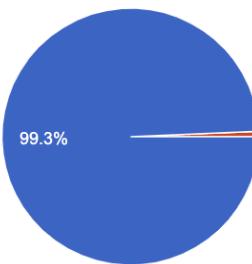
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Do you think the installation of vending machines of toiletries in comfort rooms is the best solution to address the issue of access to reproductive essentials?

451 responses

[Copy chart](#)



Yes!

No, I don't think so.

Project C.A.R.E: Creating Access to Reproductive Essentials [Pulse Survey]

What kind of toiletries and reproductive essentials do you wish to see in the vending machines installed in the comfort rooms of the university? Check all that applies.

[Copy chart](#)

448 responses

