A Resolution Supporting the Implementation of Differentiated Housing Rates by the Department of Resident Life

Passed 36-0-1

WHEREAS the Residence Hall Association (RHA) is the governing body for all on-campus students, and

WHEREAS the opening of Prince Frederick Hall highlights the inconsistencies in quality among residence halls across campus, and

WHEREAS the potential construction of new buildings outlined in the Strategic Housing Plan will make the differences among renovated halls and un-renovated halls more apparent, and

WHEREAS the Department of Resident Life (DRL) plans to implement a differentiated rates structure for all on-campus housing (excluding Commons and Courtyards) beginning in Fall 2015, and

WHEREAS this new structure will allow students to choose their housing based on what they are willing to pay as opposed to the current room selection system, and

WHEREAS the new structure reduces costs for the majority of students and reduces unfairness felt by students who are paying the same rates for vastly different qualities of housing, and

WHEREAS many peer institutions, including the majority of Big Ten schools as well as local universities, have successfully implemented differentiated rates and have reported that there are no indications of communities of economy on campus,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that RHA urge the University of Maryland to monitor the situation to ensure communities of economy do not develop, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that RHA encourage DRL to work with Living and Learning Programs to ensure the fairest allocation of housing and payment strategies, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that RHA urge the University of Maryland to ensure that the opportunity to participate in Living and Learning Programs is not compromised, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ReLATe continue to work with DRL to determine the fairest rate structure in conjunction with the budgetary process, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that RHA supports the introduction of a differentiated rate structure into University of Maryland’s on-campus housing starting in Fall 2015.
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