A Resolution Urging Continued Efforts to Support Diversity and Inclusion on Campus

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

WHEREAS the students who live on campus are diverse in areas of race, religion, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual preference, and ability, and

WHEREAS problems regarding the climate of diversity on campus have arisen through emails and other expressions of intolerance, some of which occur in the residence halls, and

WHEREAS University President Wallace Loh announced in an email on December 7th, 2015 that the administration, in response to President Harry Byrd’s history of “racial segregation and discrimination,” has recommended to change the name of Byrd Stadium to Maryland Stadium, and

WHEREAS President Loh, in working with the President’s Group on Diversity and Inclusion, has supported the implementation of the Maryland Dialogues on Diversity and Community, a series of events meant to bring the university together to have dialogue on issues of identity, and

WHEREAS in order to create a safe and effective learning environment, leaders at the university must make a conscious effort to educate and empower all students,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the RHA supports the administration’s decision to rename Byrd Stadium to Maryland Stadium, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the RHA supports the current Maryland Dialogues effort to increase conversation and education around issues of diversity and inclusion, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that RHA strongly urge the campus administration to continue to collaborate with student leaders in order to further improve the campus climate as it relates to diversity and inclusion.

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1 Email from President Wallace Loh to the UMD community, December 7th, 2015.