A Resolution Advising the Department of Resident Life to Pursue Room Sync as an Alternative System for Roommate Matching

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

WHEREAS the RHA has priority influence in regards to issues within the University of Maryland (UMD) College Park Department of Resident Life (DRL) through the Resident Life Advisory Team (ReLATe), and

WHEREAS RoomSync is a third party roommate matching Facebook as a platform, and

WHEREAS DRL Assistant Director Scott Young conducted a presentation on roommate matching and Room Sync before the RHA Senate on February 28, 2012, and

WHEREAS RoomSync would coexist with the current roommate matching system and serve as another option available for students, and

WHEREAS no student would be obligated to find a roommate through RoomSync, and

WHEREAS the application may also be used to meet other students with similar interests, and

WHEREAS a study at the University of Florida-based on the numbers it obtained having used RoomSync showed that it did not have a negative impact on diversity, and

WHEREAS DRL is looking to enter a three-year contract with RoomSync with an annual cost under $5,000 and no set-up fee, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the RHA Senate advises DRL to pursue a contract with RoomSync as soon as possible with the desire that the application would be available for new, incoming students and returning students to use for the Fall 2012 semester, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ReLATe and DRL will work together with RoomSync to customize the application to best fit the needs of UMD students and coordinate the logistics of the system, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ReLATe and DRL will conduct a survey of those who used RoomSync in its first year for feedback on the system and discuss the results of this survey in committee, and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that if, for any reason, DRL cannot enter into a contract with RoomSync, DRL will return to ReLATe to discuss further options for improving roommate matching.
Residence Hall Association
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March 6, 2012

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