

A Resolution to Support Future Expansion of the International House Learning Community

Vincent Liu (for himself) introduced the following resolution; which was brought directly to the floor.

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Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at the Ohio State University, and

Whereas the international community is an important asset of the Ohio State University, taking 7.9% of the entire undergraduate student population at the Columbus campus,¹ and

Whereas international students face challenges including culture shock, inadequate language proficiency, homesickness, etc. already when coming to study in a foreign country, and

Whereas according to professional researchers, participation in residential learning communities significantly enhances students' incorporation into college and their involvement and college outcomes,² and

Whereas the current International House Learning Community, located on the 4th floor of Morrison Tower, is not fulfilling its purpose to benefit "students interested in learning our world's many cultures and communities,"^{3,4} and

Whereas the international freshmen choosing to participate in the learning community can face extra and unnecessary burdens, for example, commuting to classes, and shared bathrooms that are likely against cultural values, and

Whereas when surveyed, most students claim that they did not want to participate in the International House Learning Community because they were scared by the living conditions at Morrison Tower, either from their own researches or upperclassmen's negative feedbacks, and

Whereas the Vice Provost for International Affairs and the Vice President for Undergraduate Admission have mentioned that expanding learning communities like the International House is tangible and beneficial,⁵ and

¹ http://oesar.osu.edu/pdf/student_enrollment/15th/enrollment/15THDAY_SPRING_2017.pdf

² Pike, G. R. (1999). The effects of residential learning communities and traditional residential living arrangements on educational gains during the first year of college. *Journal of College Student Development*, 40(3), 269-284.

³ <https://housing.osu.edu/learningcommunities/international-house-learning-community/>

⁴ Information collected during General Assembly on 3/22/2017.

⁵ Information collected during meeting with the Office of Academic Affairs on 3/3/2017.

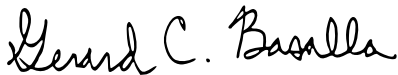
40 **Whereas** the resolution, to provide future references for the Residence Life, is supported by the
41 Associate Director of Academic Initiatives,⁶ and

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43 **Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government passes this resolution
44 to show support to future expansion of the International House learning community by
45 Residence Life and University Housing, and

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47 **Let it Further Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government further collaborates
48 with Residence Life to create strategies to increase its participation and retention rates.

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Floor Vote: Passed.

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57 Gerard Basalla
58 President

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57 Danielle Di Scala
58 Vice President

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Date Adopted: 3/29/17 Date Terminated: _____

⁶ Information gained during meeting on 3/9/2017.