A Resolution Supporting the Implementation of
“CORE Sustainability and Global Citizenship” Courses for the University of
Maryland

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1. WHEREAS, sustainability is a broad, new concept which has arisen from
recognition that Americans and the industrialized world cannot continue to
consume or behave with neglect to the environment and its natural resources; and,

2. WHEREAS, a long-lasting solution to the impending ecological crisis of global
climate change and other environmental challenges does lie in policy change, but
more importantly in changing the everyday habits and conservation practices of
individuals; and,

3. WHEREAS, encouraging a fundamental knowledge of sustainability, on ecology,
evervation, or resource management, is a critical step in igniting a revolution in the
way that people perceive their natural environment and consumption habits and in
encouraging policymakers to implement effective sustainable change; and,

4. WHEREAS, part of the University of Maryland’s mission as an educational
institution is to “apply knowledge for the benefit of the economy and culture of
the state, the region, and the nation beyond” by “nourishing a climate of
intellectual growth in a broad range of academic disciplines and interdisciplinary
fields;” and,

5. WHEREAS, the University of Maryland CORE curriculum functions as a liberal
arts and sciences program, designed to acquaint students “with a variety of
academic disciplines, ideas, ways of thinking about the world, and ways of
approaching problems” - and as is meant to “help students achieve the intellectual
integration and awareness they need to meet challenges in their personal, social,
political, and professional lives;” and,

6. WHEREAS, as demonstrated by the University of Maryland’s environmental
stewardship and the creation of a CORE Senate Committee, the University is
committed to pushing the evolution of human thought and a liberal arts education
to include not only knowledge of diversity, literature, science, math, and art, but
also respect for the natural world; and,

7. WHEREAS, under the President’s Climate Commitment, the university has two
years to determine a Climate Action Plan, which must include making
sustainability a part of the curriculum and educational experience for all students;
and,
8. WHEREAS, sustainability is a broad term that can be linked to several academic
disciplines from politics, education, and developmental psychology, to other
topical areas as well; and,

9. WHEREAS, the President’s Climate Commitment curriculum requirement could be
achieved by revising CORE to be more reflective of our current global
sustainability concerns by creating new interdisciplinary courses that would
integrate or focus on sustainability;” and,

10. WHEREAS, requiring every University of Maryland student to complete a CORE
course incorporating sustainability into the greater goal of a well rounded liberal
arts education would be a critical step in encouraging students to successfully
meet future sustainability challenges;

11. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Student Government Association
(SGA), on behalf of the University of Maryland student body, finds sustainability
to be a subject worthy of formalized education and necessary to achieving the
University’s Climate Commitment; and,

12. BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the SGA would like to see the CORE Planning
and Implementation Team ensure that the principles of sustainability and global
citizenship are represented in the CORE curriculum for University of Maryland
students in the near future.

Sponsor: Joanna Calabrese, Agriculture Legislator
Co-sponsors: Nicholas Chamberlain, BSOS Legislator
Ashley Williams, BSOS Legislator
Kevin Tervala, Arts and Humanities Legislator
Josh Swanner, South Campus Commons Legislator
Annika Betancourt, Outlying Commuter Legislator
Farrah AlMansoor, Business Legislator
Matthew Verghese, Engineering Legislator
Stephanie Kitchell, Greek Legislator
Lauren Haskins, Letters and Sciences Legislator
Jessica Ambramovici, Letters and Sciences Legislator
Nikita Boston, Cambridge Community Legislator
Rachelle Bye, CMPS Legislator
Joseph Caputo, Ellicott Community Legislator

Committee: Academic Affairs

Speaker Nicholas Chamberlain

President Andrew Friedson