

Resolution 014
A Resolution Affirming SGA Support for the Academic Senate
Sponsored By: Senator Mackisey
Co-Sponsored By: Senator Calotta, Senator Spinelli, Senator Troilo, Senator Hagarty

Whereas,

The University Academic Senate is an essential component of the shared governance of The Catholic University of America that acts as a deliberative body when considering “any matter which it deems to involve the welfare of the University.”¹

Whereas,

The University’s Academic Senate, “shares with the President the immediate responsibility for academic governing of the university by establishing, maintaining, supervising, and in general being responsible for the academic policies of the University.”²

Whereas,

The voting members of the Academic Senate consist of: the President, the Provost, the Deans of the various Schools, various administrative officials of the University, representatives of graduate and undergraduate students, and delegates elected by the Faculties of the various Schools of the University.

Whereas,

The undergraduate students are represented by three seats on the Academic Senate that are filled with voting SGA representatives.

Whereas,

Some faculty members, both current and emeritus, have formed a “faculty assembly” as an unofficial representative body of the faculty of the University.

Whereas,

This “faculty assembly” is not sanctioned by the University and has no official capacity or authority to enact or resolve measures.

Whereas,

The “faculty assembly” has on multiple occasions directly implied and insinuated that the University Administration, including but not limited to the President & the Provost, has engaged in scare tactics such as suppression of thought, suppression of academic freedom, and intimidation.

¹ Academic Senate Constitution <http://academicsenate.cua.edu/academicsenateconstitution.cfm>

² Academic Senate Constitution

Whereas,

Through this, the “faculty assembly” has attempted on multiple occasions to foment distrust and misunderstanding between the student body and the University Administration which has a fiduciary responsibility to the students.

Whereas,

This “faculty assembly” has repeatedly, through suggestion and implication, advertised themselves as an official University sanctioned organization.

Whereas,

Students have begun to become aware of this “faculty assembly” both from other students and in other sources, e.g. The Tower,³ that has caused confusion on campus regarding its capacity as a University institution.

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby affirms the following:

1. Our commitment to disseminating proper and correct information with our fellow students that we represent.
2. The recognition of, and commitment to, the Academic Senate as the University's deliberative body when considering “any matter which it deems to involve the welfare of the University.”⁴
3. The recognition that the “Faculty Assembly” is not an official representative body of the University nor a participant in the University's shared governance.

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby recommends the following:

1. That the “faculty assembly” suspend its continued misinformation, malalignment, incorrect implication, and circumvention of the University's shared governance model.
2. That the “faculty assembly” refrain from publishing its opinions, letters, agendas, and any and all other publications if they are accompanied by the University seal or logo.

³ <http://cuatower.com/2019/02/faculty-assembly-finalizes-statement-on-dr-mckenna-scandal/>

⁴ Academic Senate Constitution

Agreed to by a vote of ____ yeas to ____ nays on this date: _____ with ____
abstaining and ____ not present.

Jimmy Harrington
President of the Student Government Association

Weston Kirby
Vice President of the Student Government Association

