

Resolution 016
A Resolution to Recognize CUAllies as an Official Campus Organization
Sponsored by: Senator Marsden
Co-Sponsored by: Senator Ahearn, Senator Besendorfer, Senator Birth,
Senator Bracey, Senator Decker, Senator Holcomb, Senator Sijgers

Whereas,

The Catholic University of America does not currently recognize an LGBTQ+ student group on campus as an official student organization.

Whereas,

The Catholic University of America often compares itself to similar Universities that have recognized LGBTQ+ groups on campus, including, but not limited to: notably, Benedictine University,¹ Georgetown University², Villanova University³, George Washington University⁴, University of Notre Dame⁵, and Boston College.⁶

Whereas,

LGBTQIA+ students have always existed on our campus and will always continue to exist.

Whereas,

CUAllies has worked to ensure a positive environment for LGBTQ+ students and allies for years, while not reaping the benefits of being a recognized student organization.

Whereas,

The mission of Catholic University's Office of Campus Activities emphasizes equity, making connections, and creating a sense of belonging.⁷

Whereas,

The purpose of CUAllies is to foster a community for young LGBTQ+ members of the CUA community to share their stories, grow, and learn how to consolidate their sexual and gender identity with their Catholic faith within their community at Catholic University.

Whereas,

Student Organizations are essential to fostering an educational environment and creating safe spaces for students.

¹ "GLOW | Student Engagement," Student Organizations and Clubs (Benedictine | Chicago | Catholic Universities), accessed February 21, 2021, <https://www.ben.edu/student-life/student-activities/student-organizations.cfm>.

² "LGBTQ Resource Center," LGBTQ Resource Center (Georgetown University, October 1, 2020), <https://lgbtq.georgetown.edu/>.

³ "VU PRIDE," Villanova Student Life (Villanova University), accessed February 18, 2021, https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/studentlife/be_empowered/vupride.html.

⁴ "LGBTQIA+ Resource Center," Multicultural Student Resources Center (George Washington University), accessed February 18, 2021, <https://mssc.gwu.edu/lgbtqia-resource-center>.

⁵ "PrismND" (Villanova University), accessed February 18, 2021, <https://prismnd.com/>.

⁶ "LGBC," Campus Life (Boston College), accessed February 18, 2021, <https://www.bc.edu/bc-web/campus-life/student-organizations.html>.

⁷ Catholic University, "About Us," The Catholic University of America (The Office of Campus Activities), accessed February 18, 2021, <https://activities.catholic.edu/about/index.html>.

Whereas,

By being recognized by the Office of Campus Activities, CUAllies would receive the rights, privileges, and protections of other clubs on this campus.

Whereas,

The Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith has consistently echoed the need for the Church to protect our LGBTQ+ siblings in saying: "It is deplorable that homosexual persons have been and are the object of violent malice in speech or in action. Such treatment deserves condemnation from the Church's pastors wherever it occurs."⁸

Whereas,

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states: "The local Church community is also a place where the person with a homosexual inclination should experience friendship. This community can be a rich source of human relationships and friendships, so vital to living a healthy life."⁹

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 requests that the University President officially approves the CUAllies club request, thereby allowing the club to receive the same rights, privileges, and protections that other clubs on this campus receive who represent marginalized student groups and populations.

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

Gerald Sharpe
President of the Student Government Association

Gemma del Carmen
Vice President of the Student Government Association

⁸ "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination: Guidelines for Pastoral Care." United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, November 14, 2006. Page 2. https://www.usccb.org/resources/ministry-to-persons-of-homosexual-inclination_0.pdf.
⁹ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Page 12"