

Resolution 009

A Resolution to Adopt “Murphy’s After Hours”

Sponsored by: Senator Hermes

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Janssen, Senator Moskowski, Senator Sinodinos

Whereas,

Murphy’s Grill, located in the Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center, has long served as a central space for student fellowship and community life at The Catholic University of America.

Whereas,

Controlled, university-sanctioned alcohol service at supervised venues can reduce the risks associated with unsupervised off-campus drinking by concentrating service in a responsible setting with trained servers and on-site risk management.

Whereas,

A decades-old Catholic University tradition of fraternal spaces began with the Rathskeller and was later renewed after the closure of Brookland’s iconic Colonel Brooks Tavern, both of which served as cherished spaces where students, faculty, and clergy could gather together for a beer in fellowship.¹

Whereas,

The Code of Student Conduct and University alcohol policy permit the lawful possession and consumption of alcohol by persons of legal drinking age on University property when done in accordance with University rules and District of Columbia law.

Whereas,

Murphy’s Grill successfully hosted a pilot “Murphy’s After Hours” event on Thursday, October 24, 2025, which demonstrated strong student interest and was conducted safely and responsibly under University supervision.

Whereas,

The current license for Murphy’s Grill permits service until 1:00 a.m., allowing the University flexibility to extend operations as needed to enhance student engagement.

Whereas,

The permanent establishment of “Murphy’s After Hours” would enhance campus life, provide a safer social environment, and promote responsibility among students of age.

Whereas,

Providing opportunities for student employment as servers and staff during these extended hours in the Spring 2026 semester would support student development, leadership, and professional experience in hospitality and event management.

¹ <https://theredirect.wordpress.com/2012/10/09/its-time-to-revive-the-cua-pub-commentary/>

Whereas,

The University may also explore extending “Murphy’s After Hours” to include Sunday afternoon operations during NFL gamedays, further encouraging campus community and school spirit;

Be it resolved 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:

- “Murphy’s After Hours” be formally established as a recurring campus event held every Thursday and Friday evening, operating until 10:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. respectively.
- The University employ student workers as servers and support staff during these extended hours, beginning in the Spring 2026 semester, in accordance with all applicable training.
- The Office of Dining Services and Office of the Dean of Students evaluate the potential to expand operations to include Sunday afternoon service during NFL gamedays, in coordination with student interest and campus policy.

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

Michael Kish

President of the Student Government Association

Catherine Weatherwax

Vice President of the Student Government Association