Fall 2006

F06RS SGR No. 2 (Freshman Res. Requirement)

Hodge

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A RESOLUTION

TO RE-AFFIRM STUDENT OPPOSITION TO AND URGE THE ADMINISTRATION TO REJECT ANY FRESHMAN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT.

PARAGRAPH 1: WHEREAS, THERE IS CURRENTLY A PROPOSAL BEING CONSIDERED BY THE UNIVERSITY THAT WOULD REQUIRE ALL FRESHMAN UNDER THE AGE OF 21 WHO DO NOT RESIDE WITH THEIR PARENTS TO LIVE ON CAMPUS THEIR FIRST YEAR, AND


PARAGRAPH 4: WHEREAS, THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT THAT ALL ON-CAMPUS FRESHMAN PURCHASE A MEAL PLAN THROUGH CHARTWELL’S DINING SERVICES, THAT CURRENTLY OFFERS THE CHEAPEST MEAL PLAN AT A RATE OF $1,129 WHICH COVERS AN AVERAGE OF 5 MEALS PER WEEK, AND

PARAGRAPH 5: WHEREAS, FOR THE 2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR, T.O.P.S. WILL ONLY COVER $1,664 OF TUITION AND FEES FOR THE LSU AND A&M CAMPUS, LEAVING $590.50 IN UNFUNDED FEES FOR FRESHMAN, AND

PARAGRAPH 6: WHEREAS, THE COST FOR A FRESHMAN TO SET FOOT ON THE CAMPUS WOULD BE EQUAL TO $3,554.50, WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE THE COST OF TEXTBOOKS, OTHER FOOD ONE WOULD HAVE TO BUY THAT IS NOT COVERED BY THE MEAL PLAN AND ENTERTAINMENT THE STUDENT MAY UNDERTAKE, AND

PARAGRAPH 7: WHEREAS, A FRESHMAN IS ONLY ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,250 PER SEMESTER THROUGH THE STAFFORD LOAN PROGRAM, LEAVING THEM SHORT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED TO PAY FOR ALL THE AFOREMENTIONED EXPENSES, AND

PARAGRAPH 8: WHEREAS, NOT ONLY ARE THERE MONETARY REASONS TO REJECT THE FRESHMAN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT, BUT ALSO POLICY REASONS RELATED TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE, AND

PARAGRAPH 9: WHEREAS, ANY STUDENT WHO LIVES ON CAMPUS MUST SIGN A CONTRACT AGREEING TO CERTAIN RULES AND REGULATIONS
THAT ARE INTRUSIVE AND INFRINGE ON CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES INCLUDING THE FREEDOM OF RELIGION, SPEECH, AND SEARCH AND SEIZURE, AND

PARAGRAPH 10: Whereas, the Constitutional Right of Freedom of Religion would be infringed upon if a student as part of their religious beliefs must burn candles and incense in their dorm room as these items are banned from being in the room or if they have dietary needs such as Halal, Kosher or Vegan, as Chartwell’s cannot provide these meal types in sufficient form, and

PARAGRAPH 11: Whereas, the Constitutional Right to Speech is infringed upon as the Department of Residential Life prohibits any decoration in a dormitory room that advertises alcoholic beverages in any way, and

PARAGRAPH 12: Whereas, the Constitutional Right against an unlawful search and seizure is also infringed as the regulations provide that any staff member can enter a student’s room unannounced 24 hours a day to conduct a safety inspection, and

PARAGRAPH 13: Whereas, the visitation policy of Residential Life is discriminatory against opposite-sex couples as the current policy only allows persons of the same-sex to remain for 24 hours in a student’s room and the policy violates the right of a student to assemble freely with who they choose, and

PARAGRAPH 14: Whereas, the aforementioned Constitutional Liberties are important to many students and they should not be forced to sign their rights away as a contingency for enrolling at LSU through living in a dormitory, and

PARAGRAPH 15: Whereas, the policy exempts only persons over 21, persons with financial need, persons who live with their family, persons with health issues, and

PARAGRAPH 16: Whereas, the recent deaths related to meningitis may give students pause about living in a communal setting and students should be able to make the decision for themselves whether they want to live in a communal environment, and

PARAGRAPH 17: Whereas, for other medical or psychological reasons, students may choose not to live on campus and they should not have to justify their needs to the Department of Residential Life by turning over their medical files in order to gain an exemption, and

PARAGRAPH 18: Whereas, the governing body of on campus students, the Residence Hall Association, has not endorsed the plan
AND THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS
ISSUES RELATED TO THE PLAN BEFORE A PLAN IS SUBMITTED, AND

PARAGRAPH 19: WHEREAS, THE MANDATING OF FRESHMAN TO LIVE ON CAMPUS
MAY FORCE UPPERCLASSMAN AND GRADUATE STUDENTS TO FIND
A PLACE TO LIVE OFF CAMPUS BECAUSE OF THE DECREASED
AMOUNT OF ROOM AVAILABLE FOR THEM TO RESIDE ON CAMPUS,
AND

PARAGRAPH 20: WHEREAS, MORE STUDENT INPUT IS NEEDED BEFORE A
FRESHMAN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT IS IMPLEMENTED AS IT
WILL AFFECT FUTURE STUDENTS GREATLY IN TERMS OF WHO
CAN AND CAN’T AFFORD TO ATTEND LSU BECAUSE OF THIS
POLICY, AND

PARAGRAPH 21: WHEREAS, THIS PLAN MAY INTERRUPTION FAMILY PLANS AS
PARENTS MAY HAVE PURCHASED OFF-CAMPUS CONDOS OR HOMES
IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, PLANNING FOR A SERIES OF CHILDREN
TO RESIDE IN THEM WHILE ATTENDING LSU, WHICH WOULD BE
DISRUPTED BY THIS POLICY, AND

PARAGRAPH 22: WHEREAS, A VISITING COMMITTEE HIRED BY THE UNIVERSITY
MADE A REPORT BASED ON OBSERVATIONS THEY MADE ON APRIL
SEMESTER, HOWEVER, AN AD HOC FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE
WAS OPERATING WITH THE SPECIFIC CHARGE OF EXAMINING THE
CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE POTENTIAL REQUIREMENT
AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT WHEN AND HOW IT
SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED…THE AD HOC COMMITTEE
CONCLUDED THAT THE PROJECTED NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE
ON CAMPUS WOULD NOT ALLOW A UNIVERSAL REQUIREMENT, OR
EVEN A REQUIREMENT WITH REASONABLE EXCEPTIONS, TO BE
INSTITUTED BEFORE 2010,” AND

PARAGRAPH 23: WHEREAS, THERE SHOULD BE ADDITIONAL INPUT FROM AN AD
HOC COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE AS THERE WAS IN
2001 TO FURTHER STUDY THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS PROPOSAL
BEFORE IT IS ENACTED.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LOUISIANA
STATE UNIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL AND
MECHANICAL COLLEGE SENATE THAT THE
ADMINISTRATION OF LSU REJECT ANY FRESHMAN RESIDENCY
REQUIREMENT FOR THE AFOREGOING REASONS.

PARAGRAPH 24: THIS BILL SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE BY A MAJORITY
VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE
PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION, OR
IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY
THE SENATE, ON THE DATE OF SUCH APPROVAL.
APPROVED

ASHLEY MARTIN – SPEAKER

CHRISTOPHER K. ODINET – PRESIDENT

DATE

DATE