

Resolution 1: Reaffirmation of the Constitution

Submitted by Natalie Kato '14, Rebecca Cook '15, Syona Arora '15, Amy Chen '14, and Amani Chowdhury '14

Whereas, the Self Government Association of the Undergraduate School of Bryn Mawr College is the first and oldest system of self-governance in the United States,

Whereas, the spirit of self governance permeates almost every aspect of the Undergraduate Bryn Mawr College experience,

Whereas, the students of Bryn Mawr College have pledged to work together for the welfare, benefit, and preservation of the community as a whole,

Whereas, we recognize that to reach full potential of our community, we require a commitment on the part of each and every individual,

It is hereby resolved that we, the members of the Self Government Association of the Undergraduate School of Bryn Mawr College present today, the 17th of February, 2013, on behalf of the entire Association, reaffirm our commitment to Self-Governance, the Constitution, and the Honor Code.

Amendment to the Reaffirmation of the Constitution

Chloe Baumann '14 and Elizabeth Vandenberg '16

Whereas, the Constitution as it stands still pursues the spirit of self-governance and SGA it does not reflect the realities of SGA,

Whereas, the SGA Constitution has been amended in small increments over a considerable amount of time,

Whereas, the Constitution has not been reviewed holistically in recent institutional memory,

Whereas, SGA positions exist in the Constitution that are no longer utilized or filled. (e.g. Article VII, Section II, Subsections G and H describe the position of Curriculum Committee Representative as being elected during dorm elections),

Whereas, the institutional memory utilized by SGA representatives and Assembly members to carry out their duties effectively is not reflected within the Constitution. Over time, these positions have been altered and should be revised within the Constitution to maintain consistency,

Whereas, the language of the Constitution is neither consistent between articles nor is it entirely coherent. This has led to a loss of clarity and functionality of the document when it is referenced by members of the community,

Be it resolved, that a Constitutional Review Committee be recognized by the Appointments Committee. The Constitutional Review Committee will investigate potential changes within the SGA Constitution. This committee will consist of 6 appointed members as well as the SGA Secretary/Parliamentarian. This Committee will be active through Spring Plenary of 2014, at which time the Committee will either present constitutional revisions to the Association for approval or will seek to be renewed.

Resolution 2: Community Presentation of Honor Board Abstracts

Submitted by Irene Shin '13 and Amani Chowdhury '14

Whereas, releasing Honor Board hearing abstracts are imperative in keeping the Bryn Mawr community informed and in holding the Honor Board accountable,

Whereas, both Article II, Section A, Subsection 2, Point f, and Article II, Section B, Subsection 2, Point e of the Honor Code read:

Once a month, at the first meeting of the month of the Assembly of the Self-Government Association the Head of the Honor Board will make a short, anonymous report of the hearing to the Assembly to be inserted in the minutes.

The format should follow as seen below:

A student was found (guilty/innocent) of (insert broad description of the infraction, i.e. plagiarism or forgery) this week. The board came to the consensus that (insert summary of the course of action to be taken). A more complete description of the case, in the form of an anonymous abstract, will be released at a later date as specified by the Honor Code.

After at least two semesters, but within four semesters, an anonymous synopsis of the case is published for the benefit of the community.

Whereas, past Heads of the Honor Board have not abided by either of these sections of the Honor Code in recent years because of conflicts of interest and concerns about student privacy. As stands, the Head of the Honor Board does not release monthly reports to the SGA Assembly nor does she release Honor Board abstracts to the Bryn Mawr community,

Whereas, releasing Honor Board monthly reports as stated in the Honor Code may not take into consideration personal feelings and works against the Honor Code's intent of restoration over punitive action,

Whereas, the Honor Code currently uses terms like "guilty" and "innocent" in the format for abstracts, working against the goal of mutual trust, respect and concern,

Whereas, the way in which the Honor Code dictates the Honor Board to release information may violate student privacy,

Be it resolved that abstracts be written and released in order to keep the Honor Board accountable. This is essential for reasons of transparency and in keeping the Bryn Mawr community informed,

Be it resolved that the Honor Code under Article II, Section A, Subsection 2, Point f will be modified so that Academic Honor Board abstracts be released in the following manner:

At the end of each semester, the Honor Board Head will release a final report of the hearings that took place to the Bryn Mawr Community. This report will include the number of academic hearings, the reason why they were brought to the board, and a broad description of the decision of each hearing. In addition, the Honor Board Head will present this information at the end of each semester to the SGA Assembly.

Included in the published report, the Honor Board Head must also include 5 to 6 random abstracts from no earlier than 2 semesters ago and no later than 6. This random selection should be representative of cases that are still relevant to campus life. All members of the Self Government Association have the right to ask the Honor Board Head for as many abstracts from hearings that have happened from no earlier than 2 semesters ago and no later than 4.

Be it resolved, the Honor Code under Article II, Section B, Subsection 2, Point e will be modified so that Social Honor Board abstracts be released in the following manner:

At the beginning of the spring semester, the Honor Board Head must release Social Honor Board Hearing abstracts from no earlier than two semesters ago and no later than ten. These abstracts should be presented to the SGA assembly and will be released to the Bryn Mawr community. The Honor Board Head should take into consideration issues of confidentiality while selecting these abstracts as there still may be collective memory over the incident. The Honor Board Head will consult the Dean of Undergraduate Students when doing so. If the Honor Board Head does not have any Social Honor Board abstracts to release, then she must state this to the SGA assembly at the beginning of the spring semester.

Be it resolved, that the 2013-2014 Head of the Honor Board follow this up by having it included in the Honor Code and have these procedures followed throughout the academic year.

Resolution 3: Financial Transparency

Submitted by Alexandra Spear '13 and Morgan Fine-Morris '14

Whereas, Bryn Mawr College has a long and proud history of self-governance and the recognition of student leadership,

Whereas, both the students and the administration of the College have the same goal of improving the institution and the administration has made changes towards that goal,

Whereas, there lacks a consistent forum for dialogue between the administration of the College and the students,

Whereas, current students and alumnae/i would be interested in knowing the general expenditures of the College,

Whereas, the College Budget Committee does not currently act as a forum to allow for student input or to accommodate student interests,

Whereas, some projects such as Perry House have lacked student input in the planning and budgeting process,

Whereas, many organizations, including the government of the United States, publish their budget every fiscal year for public access,

Be it resolved, that the student body recommends that the administration annually publish its budget for the current Fiscal Year, with detail down to the department budgets and project costs, on the College website,

Be it resolved, that a notice saying the budget has been published will then be emailed to all current students and alumnae/i,

Be it resolved, that the student body recommends that the administration host an open meeting at least twice a semester, not to coincide with SGA meetings, to discuss future plans for the college and current issues that students and the administration face, and that the President of the College, the Chief Financial Officer, and other Cabinet members as appropriate attend.