

Vassar Student Association (VSA) Senate Resolution
A Resolution to Adopt the Guiding Principles of the 2nd VSA Senate

WHEREAS the 2nd VSA Senate recognizes and celebrates its role as the representative of the Vassar student body; and

WHEREAS it recognizes the need to celebrate and support Vassar students of marginalized identities, acknowledging that historically both individuals as well as the structure of the governing body has faltered and let the issues faced by marginalized persons go unrecognized; and

WHEREAS it acknowledges that often the VSA as an institution focuses more on rhetoric than enacting real change; and

WHEREAS in the past, accessibility to the VSA for constituents has often been difficult, inhibited by a lack of transparency in information sharing and communication; and

WHEREAS this is the second year of the new VSA structure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Guiding Principles of 2nd VSA Senate will be as follows:

1. We will leverage the institutional power of the VSA for the best interests of students.
2. We reaffirm our commitment to value and work towards anti-racism and intersectional feminism.
3. We will work with the goal of restorative justice for those students of marginalized identities who have historically or otherwise experienced violence against their personhood as students at Vassar.
4. We will acknowledge our inherent structural limitations and will work to enact change and follow through on promises to the best of our ability, guided by our dedication to challenge those constraints.
5. We will be a self-critical Senate, in which each member recognizes their own limitations and their fellow members continuously hold one another accountable for their actions.
6. We will actively seek to make the VSA more accessible and transparent to students, through measures that increase our visibility and include but are not limited to, improvements to the VSA official website.
7. We will continuously seek to fully realize the promise of shared governance.
8. We will continue to restructure the VSA to best suit students' need and experiences.

and, therefore, be it further

RESOLVED that pursuant to this, every committee of the VSA shall come up with a concrete list of proposals of how they will enact these agreed upon guiding principles in the work that they will pursue by September 17, 2017; and be it further

RESOLVED that we, the 2nd VSA Senate and all the component parts of the VSA, shall abide by these principles in recognition of the beauty and excellence of the Vassar College community.