

Vassar Student Association Resolution 27-

A Resolution Urging Increased Support for Students of Lower Socioeconomic Backgrounds

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WHEREAS, students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds face unique challenges to succeeding at Vassar, and the lack of institutional support from the College has been a persistent problem for these students.

WHEREAS, in addition to the approximately 60% of students on financial aid, the proportion of first-generation students is growing.

WHEREAS, the Transitions Program and the Diving into Research Program can only provide support to a limited number of students.

WHEREAS, the current campus climate and bias incidents that have taken place this year reflect the need for the College to take responsibility to ensure that: all students are made to feel represented; all students have a safe space on campus; and that there is campus dialogue about all Vassar students' unique backgrounds and their impact on our campus community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vassar Student Association Council (the "Council") in accordance with its Constitution, Bylaws, Policies, and/or other governing documents strongly urges Vassar College to expand the institutional support for students of lower socioeconomic backgrounds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council proposes that institutional support should follow the example of support given by the College to other groups of students that are traditionally underserved on college campuses, including the creation of a center under the Campus Life & Diversity Office that provides sufficient and adequate resources for students of lower socioeconomic backgrounds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the long-term, these resources should include: a physical and central location, paid student interns, a designated administrator, and an adequate budget that would allow the center to both meet the social and academic needs of all students who wish to make use of it and generate further campus dialogue around this issue.