

Resolution 016

A Resolution of Recommendation on CUA Academic Renewal

Sponsored by: Senator Mackisey

**Co-Sponsored by: Senator Connolly, Senator Hagerty, Senator Harrington,
Senator Kirby**

Whereas,

On March 8th, 2018 University Provost Dr. Abela presented a “Proposal for Academic Renewal” to the Academic Senate.

Whereas,

The “Proposal for Academic Renewal” has entered into a phase of public debate and discussion amongst the University community.

Whereas,

Undergraduate students of The Catholic University of America deserve to know where their Student Government Association stands on fundamental issues raised in this “Proposal for Academic Renewal.”

Whereas,

The Department of Media and Communications Studies, as it stands currently in the School of Arts & Sciences, is one predominately engaged in critical based research and analysis of Media, and is not predominately engaged in presentation and performance of Art.

Whereas,

The Department of Media and Communications Studies Mission Statement states the following: “The mission of The Catholic University of America’s Department of Media Studies is to provide a humanities-centered education in media literacy as part of an intellectual and moral foundation for students.” “The work of the Media Studies department directly supports the mission of The Catholic University of America, as its distinctive humanities approach to media literacy “seeks the advancement of knowledge within a context of liberal studies,” and inherently reflects a “concern for the whole person.”² As part of CUA’s academic community, it is likewise committed to “discover, preserve and impart the truth in all its forms,” aiming at a nuanced understanding of the ways that mediated communication relates to the forms truth may take.”

Whereas,

The “Proposal for Academic Renewal” suggests moving the Department of Media Studies and Communications to a new school of “School of Music, Visual and Performing Arts” consisting

of departments of Music Performance; Music Theory, History, and Composition; Drama; and Art and Communications.

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in their official capacity as the representatives of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby supports the implementation of the following:

1. That the March 8th, 2018 “Proposal for Academic Renewal” be amended as such that the Department of Media Studies is retained in the School of Arts & Sciences and not moved to a new School of Music, Visual and Performing Arts.
2. The establishment of a new School of Music, Visual and Performing Arts as laid out on page nine (9) Section two (2) of the “Proposal for Academic Renewal” of March 8th, contingent upon the adoption of the aforementioned amendment proposed above.

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

Brianna Howard
President of the Student Government Association

Jonathan Weiss
Vice President of the Student Government Association

