

Ashton Weber, *Off-Campus Student*
Makira Walton, *Pangborn Hall Resident*
Patrick Kelly-Dutile, *Dunne Hall Resident*
The Undersigned Students

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN JENKINS, C.S.C. DUE TO HIS FAILED LEADERSHIP AMID THE COVID-19 CRISIS.

Whereas, University President, Fr. John Jenkins, C.S.C. was seen on September 26, 2020, at the nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett to the United States Supreme Court in the Rose Garden of the White House;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins' participation in this event was in direct breach of the University's COVID-19 procedures, as he was recorded shaking hands with several unmasked individuals and photographed sitting without a mask in close proximity to other attendees;

Whereas, it has become publicly recognized that attendees of the nomination were required to test negative for COVID-19 before entering the Rose Garden, but it is widely known that rapid testing is highly ineffective and that members of the Notre Dame community are expected to adhere to all COVID-19 regulations at all times, even if they have already contracted and recovered from the virus or if they have recently tested negative;

Whereas, students, faculty and staff have also been asked to refrain from unnecessary travel at this time, yet Fr. Jenkins travelled across the country to participate in a large gathering;

Whereas, a professor's nomination to the US Supreme Court is significant and could be framed as necessary travel, but Fr. Jenkins could have fully participated in the event while following COVID-19 guidelines, as Joseph A. Matson Dean and Professor of Law G. Marcus Cole demonstrated;

Whereas, this is Fr. Jenkins' second public infraction of COVID-19 protocol, which has been outlined on the here.nd.edu website, as images of Fr. Jenkins posing closely with over 20 members of the Farley Hall community were circulated on August 6, 2020;

Whereas, the student body promptly received an apology email from Fr. Jenkins, which stated, "I am sorry for my poor example, and I am recommitting to do my best;"

Whereas, on September 23, Fr. Jenkins sent an email about plans for the spring semester and wrote, "Let each of us recommit to doing our part to keep this community healthy and remain together here on campus. Please remember to do the following: 1. Wear your mask, 2. Practice physical distancing..."

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins' public displays of disregard for public health directly contradict his

October 1st, 2020

commitment to the Notre Dame community, directly endanger the safety of students, faculty and staff, and also cast a negative light on the Notre Dame community as a whole, which has largely stepped up to the task of keeping one another safe;

Whereas, students living on and off campus at Notre Dame have been unwaveringly held to the standards set forth by the COVID-19 Response Unit and those who have not adhered to safety guidelines have received disciplinary actions consistent with their indiscretion, including several students being dismissed from the University for gathering in large groups without masks;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins has frequently reminded us that we must consistently hold each other accountable to the standards of this community, for the safety and well-being of all members, and he can no longer, in good conscience, call the student body, faculty and staff to adhere to the safety protocol that he ignores;

***Resolved*, the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, on behalf of the entire Student Body and the Notre Dame family, calls for the resignation of Fr. John Jenkins, C.S.C as University President, effective immediately, for failure to comply with COVID-19 protocols.**

Rachel Ingal
Student Body President