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Veronica Slevin, *Pasquerilla West Hall Senator*
Avery Broughton, *Director of Sustainability*
Aidan Creeron, *Director of Social Concerns*
Madeline Means, *Flaherty Hall Senator*
Isabelle Keren, *Johnson Family Hall Senator*
Michael Jekot, *St. Edward's Hall Senator*

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR DIVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUELS

Whereas, the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac commends efforts by the University to implement conservation measures, reduce energy usage and carbon emissions on campus, and eliminate the use of coal as a power source on campus in recent years;

Whereas, the University of Notre du Lac has committed to pursuing a Just Transition for a Sustainable Future through education and the goal of reaching [zero net carbon emissions by 2050](#) for Scope 1 and 2 emissions, and the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac supports the multifaceted efforts of the University to reach this goal;

Whereas, the use and development of fossil fuels emits particles and greenhouse gasses which are harmful to the environment and contribute to global warming;

Whereas, global warming is a [detriment](#) to the well being of the human population, because of effects including increasing intensity of natural disasters, increasing displacement and migration, increasing health problems, and others;

Whereas, the negative impacts of the fossil fuel industry [disproportionately affect](#) low income communities and communities of racial minorities;

Whereas, Holy Father Pope Francis, in his encyclical [Laudato Si](#), calls us to “replace consumption with sacrifice, greed with generosity, wastefulness with a spirit of sharing” in order to care for the climate as a common good which links “many of the essential conditions for human life”;

Whereas, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in their [Socially Responsible Investment Guidelines](#), call Catholic individuals and institutions to pursue investment strategies based on Catholic Moral Principles by avoiding participation in harmful activities, using their role as a stockholder for social and ethical stewardship, and promoting the common good, which includes refusal to invest or the decision to divest from companies whose “products and/or

policies are counter to the values of Catholic moral teaching or statements adopted by the Conference of bishops”;

Whereas, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in their [Socially Responsible Investment Guidelines](#), states that, “Our tradition calls us to protect the life and dignity of the human person, and it is increasingly clear that this task cannot be separated from the care and defense of all creation...We must seek a society where economic life and environmental commitment work together to protect and to enhance life on this planet”;

Whereas, the Interdicasteral Working Group of the Holy See on Integral Ecology, in [Journeying Towards Care for Our Common Home](#), suggests that Catholic investors can encourage positive changes in the economy when they decide not to invest in certain companies and that these investors should, “Promote ethical, responsible, and integral criteria for investment decision making, taking care not to support companies that harm human or social ecology (for example, through abortion or the arms trade), or environmental ecology (for example, through the use of fossil fuels)” and, “Promote responsible investments in social and environmental sectors, for example by evaluating progressive divestment from the fossil-fuel sector”;

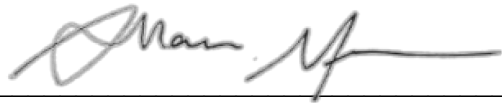
Whereas, the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development promotes Ecological Economics as part of the [Laudato Si Action Platform](#), acknowledging that the economy is an important system of human society and our common home, and that one important action to foster sustainability in this area is “divestment from fossil fuels and any activity harmful to the planet and the people”;

Whereas, investing in companies committed to sustainable practices and environmental stewardship can promote development of renewable and sustainable energy sources;

Whereas, more than [250 Catholic institutions](#) from around the world have already committed to divestment from fossil fuels;

Whereas, the University of Notre Dame du Lac’s current stance on divestment remains unknown; therefore, be it,

Resolved, by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, that the University of Notre Dame Investment Office should pursue a path towards complete divestment from fossil fuel industries in accordance with the Catholic commitment to care for our common home, provide a preferential option for the poor and vulnerable, and prioritize the common good.



Allan Njomo
Student Body President