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**A RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS CONCERNS WITH CLASS REGISTRATION
FOR STUDENTS IN NOTRE DAME'S ROTC PROGRAM**

Whereas, the University of Notre Dame has a long history of supporting the United States military spanning back to the American Civil War. Beginning in 1951, Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) was established at Notre Dame. Celebrating over seventy years of active membership, the Notre Dame division of the ROTC program has three separate branches for the United States Army, Navy, and Air Force respectively. The Notre Dame ROTC program has approximately 300 undergraduate students (100 students in each branch) actively involved in its activities and training procedures;

Whereas, the class registration structure at the University of Notre Dame has a priority system in which certain student groups are provided access to the earliest class registration times. The class registration system at Notre Dame is structured as follows:¹

- Regardless of student status (first-year, sophomore, etc.), class registration begins at 6:30 AM EST on the assigned registration day and continues every 10 minutes until all of the students on that registration day have been provided with a class registration time slot,
- The 6:30 AM EST, 6:40 AM EST, and the 6:50 AM EST time slots are generally referred to as early class registration. Roughly 200 students are assigned to each time slot.
- The earliest class registration times are given primarily to student-athletes to accommodate their training programs and athletic schedules at the University of Notre Dame. For every student-athlete provided an early class registration time slot, an equal number of slots are provided to a combination of regular students and students with disabilities. For example, a 6:30 AM EST class registration would have 100 student-athletes, 95 regular students, and 5 students with disabilities,
- Students with disabilities represent an extremely small portion of the earliest class registration time slots. Approximately 5 to 10 students with disabilities are represented in any given early class registration time slot. The aforementioned students with disabilities are those students who are pre-approved for early class registration because of demonstrated physical needs that require the selection of specific class locations and times to meet their accommodations,
- By the 7:00 AM EST time slot on any given registration day, all of the registering student-athletes have completed their class registration and the remaining time slots are composed of regular students;

¹ Class Registration Structure and Statistics provided by the Office of the Registrar.

Whereas, the members of Notre Dame's ROTC program are active, degree-seeking students. ROTC students are required to take all of the necessary core requirement classes and major-specific classes mandated for their undergraduate degree. In addition, ROTC students are required to take ROTC-specific classes that match the branch (Army, Navy, or Air Force) in which they are enrolled. The ROTC-specific classes are taken alongside their normal Notre Dame classes and include courses such as Naval Sciences or Army Tactics;

Whereas, ROTC students are enrolled at the University of Notre Dame because of the financial assistance and workforce benefits offered by the ROTC program as a whole. Without the ROTC, many of these students would not be able to attend the University or would have elected to go elsewhere for postsecondary education. Student-athletes are similar in that their enrollment in the University is reliant upon their participation in their respective sport. Student-athletes are also helped at the University through the assistance and program benefits of Notre Dame Athletics;

Whereas, the current structure of Notre Dame's class registration system does not provide priority access to the earliest class registration times for Notre Dame's ROTC students. The ROTC students at the University are given no additional class registration assistance despite having more complexity to the amount and types of classes that they must take;

Whereas, ROTC students are required by their program to participate in time-restricted events such as early morning drills, university travel, and afternoon work-outs. Student-athletes face similar restraints and are given early class registration to prevent conflicts with their athletic schedules. When a ROTC student receives a late class registration time, it becomes a barrier for the student to find class times and locations that meet their program needs. ROTC students are faced with the difficult choice of choosing between their course of study and completing the requirements of the program that is making it possible for them financially to attend Notre Dame;

Whereas, student-athletes with the same challenges and time restraints are provided with early class registration. ROTC students with access to earlier class registration times would have fewer scheduling challenges and fewer barriers to a Notre Dame education. ROTC students would also have greater accessibility to class times that meet their program requirements and allow them enough downtime between their drills and their classes;

Whereas, members of the Notre Dame ROTC program are significantly affected by the class registration system in the following ways:

- A. Enrollment, financial assistance, workforce benefits, and full participation in the University of Notre Dame are made possible for ROTC students by their involvement with the ROTC program. The ROTC program at the University provides financial assistance and scholarships for these students to attend Notre Dame. Despite their



- enrollment in the University being contingent upon their participation in the ROTC, Notre Dame does not offer ROTC students assistance in the class registration process,
- B. Students involved with Notre Dame's ROTC program are required to take both their normal university courses and ROTC-specific classes. With great complexity in their schedules and an increased course load, ROTC students find it difficult and frustrating to obtain the classes they need while still maintaining a reasonable schedule,
 - C. ROTC students deal with many of the same situations and challenges faced by Notre Dame's student-athletes. ROTC students must balance early morning drills, university travel, and afternoon workouts to fulfill their ROTC responsibilities. The class registration process makes it difficult for ROTC students to adequately meet both their academic and ROTC needs,
 - D. If the University is to continue to attract and recruit these valuable members of the Notre Dame student community, the University must address the difficulty and frustration these students have when registering for classes. A greater and more efficient ROTC program on campus means a greater enrollment tool for prospective students; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, that:

- 1. The Office of the Provost, in coordination with the Office of the Registrar, work to improve and enhance the University's class registration system to account for the needs of the University's ROTC students by offering them early class registration.**

Patrick Lee
Student Body President