

**Resolution SS1314-24**

**March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

PHIL KREBS, ZAHM HOUSE SENATOR  
KYLE McCAFFERY, O'NEILL HALL SENATOR  
ROHAN ANDRESEN, SIEGFRIED HALL SENATOR

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ENHANCED COMMUNICATION AMONG  
RESIDENCE HALLS, RESIDENTS, AND UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION**

Whereas, According to DuLac, "The University of Notre Dame provides opportunities for students to prepare themselves for constructive and responsible living by fostering an environment which recognizes and values the needs of both the individual and the larger community";

Whereas, That environment is fostered by the mutual efforts of the University of Notre Dame and the residents of those halls and houses to meet "the needs of both the individual and the larger community";

Whereas, The needs of the community center around the shared living experience at a premier Catholic institution of higher education;

Whereas, The recent decision to substantially alter living layout in Zahm House has brought to light a pervasive lack of understanding of how deeply students are affected by any change within the residential life experience;

Whereas, The manner of communication in informing Zahm residents of upcoming changes was inadequate because residents were notified after signing the Housing Contract, two weeks before room picks, and via a 2:00 a.m. email;

Whereas, There has been a lapse in communication between the University of Notre Dame, the students, and residence hall staff that has affected all of the above parties and has led to tension among those parties;

Whereas, The unconsciousness of student feelings and a lapse in communication by all involved, University staff and residents, have resulted in the disruption of the communal bond between Zahm House and its fellow members of the Notre Dame family within the University administration; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Student Senate requests that the Office of Housing of the University of Notre Dame administration consults more closely those student residential communities in which the administration is considering making changes in order to promote a greater understanding between the students and the administration; and, also therefore, be it further

*Resolved*, That the Student Senate requests that the University of Notre Dame administration considers how to communicate changes in a more timely manner so that affected students can prepare appropriately.

Alexander F. Coccia  
Student Body President

