

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS
PATRICK MCCORMICK, STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

**A RESOLUTION PROPOSING THE ADOPTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE
UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**

Whereas, The University of Notre Dame's mission statement affirms that the aim of a Notre Dame education is "to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice";

Whereas, Pope Benedict XVI has declared that, "Preservation of the environment, promotion of sustainable development and particular attention to climate change are matters of grave concern for the entire human family";

Whereas, The University of Notre Dame has assumed a role as a leader in the sustainability movement in Catholic higher education through its hosting of the national Renewing the Campus Conference on Sustainability and the Catholic University;

Whereas, University President Fr. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C. noted in an introduction to that same conference that, "We now know that climate change and resource scarcity will disproportionately impact those who have contributed the least to our present energy and environmental crisis";

Whereas, Reduction in carbon emissions is necessarily an essential component of human solidarity in a world in which our common future is threatened by a number of ecological concerns including global warming, ocean acidification, deforestation, species loss, and toxic waste;

Whereas, The Notre Dame Office of Sustainability "integrates sustainable principles across University operations and engages the campus community with global sustainable issues and the impact of personal choices"; and

Whereas, The Office of Sustainability has prepared a comprehensive sustainability strategy for the university that will put us on an institutional trajectory to achieve significant and aggressive reductions in our carbon footprint; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the students of the University of Notre Dame support the Office of Sustainability in its effort to propose a comprehensive sustainability strategy;

Resolved, That ^{the} strategy includes a plan that will aim to put the university on a trajectory to reduce the university's carbon footprint 70% from 2005 levels by 2050; and

Resolved, That students continue to partner with administrators to ensure Notre Dame's leadership in securing a just ecological future for all.

