

**Resolution Regarding In-Hall Dances**

**RECOGNIZING** that tradition is essential to the storied reputation and inimitable community of the University of Notre Dame,

**WHEREAS** an important aspect of the Notre Dame tradition is the family atmosphere of its residence halls,

**COGNIZANT** that signature events, traditionally held in the residence halls, such as the Alumni Wake, Breen-Phillips Beach Week, Pop Farley, the Fisher Regatta, the Keenan Revue, the Keough Chariot Race and White Wedding, the Lewis Crush, Lyons' Luau, McGlinn Casino Night, the O'Neill Mardi Gras, Pasquerilla East Pyromania, Pasquerilla West Queen Week, St. Edward's Hall Players Night, Walsh Hall Fall Frolic, the Zahm Decade Dance and other residence hall events are some of the most tangible, frequent and recognizable sources of this tradition and atmosphere,

**WHEREAS** moving dances out of residence halls has detracted from this sense of community and tradition, as evidenced by feedback from our constituents and fellow student leaders,

**RECOGNIZING** that this deterioration in dorm life has contributed to the continuing trend in which students venture off campus for weekend social gatherings, thus depreciating the sense of the on campus community, as well as posing significant safety risks,

**REALIZING** that the new policy has caused the cost of hall dances to rise dramatically,

**APPRECIATING** the additional funds that the University has provided toward such dances, yet believing these funds could instead be designated for alternative programming such as alcohol awareness education,

**WELCOMING** the concern, effort, and initiative of the administrators to promote a responsible social atmosphere at the University of Notre Dame,

**WHEREAS** it is impossible to determine whether the ban on hard alcohol, the new hall dance policy or increased student awareness of campus alcohol abuse has contributed to a decline in alcohol poisoning on campus this year, \*

**RECOGNIZING** that in the past many students were unaware of the gravity and frequency of problems arising from in-hall dances and were not cognizant of the administration's concern with this issue,

**BELIEVING** that, given the opportunity, students will actively seek to preserve valued traditions by promoting responsible behaviors among their peers,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that dances be allowed to return to residence halls for a probationary period, after which they will be assessed in light of the continuance of the ban on hard alcohol and the increase in student awareness.

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the administration and student leaders work together to establish an appropriate format and necessary regulations for the in-hall dance to safely and responsibly be reinstated

Respectfully Submitted by the Residence Life Committee