Resolution SS 2324-08

1 November 2023

Hunter Brooke, Student Union Parliamentarian
Koryn Isa, Judicial Council President
Sam Godinez, Dillon Hall Senator
Maeve Miller, McGlinn Hall Senator
Clayton Chauncey, Knott Hall Senator
Lindy Skube, Flaherty Hall Senator
Louis Cornett, Alumni Hall Senator
Jacob Zybura, Duncan Hall Senator
Libby Meister, Lyons Hall Senator
Justin Aguiar, Keough Hall Senator
Joseph Tunney, Fisher Hall Senator
Ryan Murray, Carroll Hall Senator
Justice Walker, Farley Hall Senator
Charlie Pehl, Pangborn Hall Senator
Dorian Khoshyomn, Stanford Hall Senator
Thomas Kluck, Baumer Hall Senator
Amelia Forrest, Breen-Phillips Hall Senator
Maria Bueno, Johnson Family Hall Senator
Avery Gahler, Badin Hall Senator
Lily Condodina, Student Union Board Executive Director
Daniel Jung, Student Body President
Aidan Rezner, Student Body Vice President
Collette Doyle, Chief of Staff
Isabella Tardio, Student Union Secretary
Allison O’Connor, Executive Controller
Claire Crafts, FUEL Co-Director
Alexandra Conley, FUEL Co-Director
Bernice Antoine, Director of International Engagement and Outreach
Lena Dougherty, Director of Gender Relations: Title IX & Women’s Initiatives
Anna Dray, Director of University Policy
Greg Gehring, Director of Gender Relations: LGBTQ+ Advocacy
Kate Jackowski, Director of Community Outreach
Anna Jang, Director of South Bend Engagement
Amir Khouzam, Director of Faith
Nadim Khouzam, Co-Director of Student Life
Sarah Mahoney, Co-Director of Student Life
Joey Kositzke, Director of Academic Affairs
Hannah Long, Director of Campus Technology & Innovation
Ben Martin, Director of National Affairs and Political Engagement
Luzolu Matundu, Director of Diversity and Inclusion: Race and Ethnicity
Alex Neff, Director of Communications
Emma Prestage, Co-Director of Health and Wellness
Emma Ronck, Co-Director of Health and Wellness
Cheyenne Stewart, Director of Diversity and Inclusion: First Generation Low-Income
Lizzie Stifel, Director of Sustainability
A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE REV. JOHN I. JENKINS FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME DU LAC

Whereas, The Reverend John I. Jenkins has dedicated a significant portion of his life to the University of Notre Dame: after obtaining his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University in 1976 and 1978 respectively (and receiving ordination as a C.S.C. priest in 1983), Fr. Jenkins has served as a member of faculty since 1990, teaching at the London Program and filling the roles of University Provost and Vice-President before ascending to the position of Notre Dame President;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins has served as the President of Notre Dame since 2005, a tenure lasting roughly eighteen years—an incumbency surpassed in length only by Fr. Sorin and Fr. Hesburgh, and nearly as long as many of his current students have lived;

Whereas, under Fr. Jenkins’ leadership, Notre Dame has benefited from staggeringly improved fiscal health and stability, including a 463.8 percent growth in the University endowment, from roughly $3.6 billion to $20.3 billion; a 475.7 percent increase in annual fundraising, from $173.7 million to roughly $1 billion; and a doubling in research expenditures since 2009 alone;
Whereas, Fr. Jenkins has overseen the judicious allocation of these funds, and has demonstrated a notable dedication to strengthening financial aid: ensuring Notre Dame exists as one of roughly sixty American universities committed to meeting the total four-year demonstrated financial need of its undergraduate students, providing more than $200 million of aid to roughly seventy percent of the student body;

Whereas, under Fr. Jenkins’ leadership, the Notre Dame campus has seen dramatic physical expansion and improvement: including the campus crossroads project, a plan to revitalize the Stadium and to construct Corbett Family Hall, Duncan Student Center and O’Neill Hall; and the construction of The Stayer Center; the construction of the Jordan Hall of Science; the construction of Johnson Family Hall; of Baumer Hall; of Dunne Hall; of Flaherty Hall; of Ryan Hall; of Duncan Hall; of Jenkins Nanovic Halls; of the Eck Hall of Law; the dramatic expansion of the Morris Inn and opening of Rohr’s; the current construction Raclin Murphy Museum of Art; and more;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins has overseen the significant invigoration of Notre Dame research: broadening research opportunities—the University now allows one in three undergraduate students to participate in research—increasing year-over-year funding, and fostering continued productive innovation, ultimately culminating our University’s acceptance into the Association of American Universities;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins guided Our Lady’s University through the turbulent and trying COVID-19 pandemic, approving an in-person learning plan after expressly striving to balance compassion for the student body with a need to recognize scientific reality, and in contravention to the remote approach favoured by many other American universities;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins occasionally faced great scrutiny, particularly for the University’s approach to the COVID-19 pandemic, but nonetheless managed to ensure an in-person learning experience during the period of national lockdown;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins announced on the thirteenth of October his imminent departure from the position of Notre Dame President, effective upon the end of the 2023-2024 scholastic year;

Whereas, following the close of his term, Fr. Jenkins has outlined his intent for continued service to The University, in a professorial and potentially consultative capacity;

Whereas, Fr. Jenkins’ lengthy tenure as Notre Dame President has not been without flaw nor disagreement; but his commitment, service, and earnestness are apparent in his compassion for the Student Body, for our University, and in his hope to serve the world as a force good; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac, on behalf of the entire Student Body, Student Union, and the Notre Dame family, recognizes, thanks, and applauds Rev. John I. Jenkins for his leadership and his service to the University;
Further Resolved, that the Student Senate commends Fr. Jenkins on his continued advocacy for an increasingly diverse student body; his resolute championing of a dramatic expansion in Notre Dame research; his uplifting promotion of our strong faculty; his push to expand Notre Dame’s presence on an international scale; and his imperfect but nonetheless steadfast dedication to an in-person educational experience during the COVID-19 pandemic, and his leadership through that tumultuous time;

Further Resolved, that the Student Senate hopes Fr. Jenkins shall enjoy tranquility, happiness, and success in whatever may lie ahead.

Daniel Jung
Student Body President