

Resolution 1617-FA-002

A Resolution Calling on the University to remedy the upcoming loss of housing for students with dependents and to more broadly address the housing needs of graduate students

Approved by CGS Delegates at the
November 18 2016 meeting

WHEREAS The Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is the representative body of all graduate students enrolled in The Ohio State University (established by Article II.I of the CGS Constitution); and

WHEREAS the university has announced plans to remove nearly one-fifth of family housing from its inventory in order to meet building needs of athletics programming with no immediate plans for replacing those homes; and,

WHEREAS current residents of Buckeye Village have several as of yet unmet concerns related to possible health and quality of life impacts upon their families' living adjacent to the demolition/construction site;

WHEREAS the university recently completed a project costing in excess of \$300 million exclusively aimed at housing undergraduate students without dependents;

WHEREAS in announcing the residential "masterplan" in 2012, then University President Gordon Gee proclaimed:

"We have close to 65,000 students in total. There is *no reason in the world that* a great American university, a great land-grant institution, **cannot provide an intimate**, socially viable, and culturally enlightened experience *to every one of those students*".

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students calls upon the leadership of the University to demonstrate its commitment to that "intimate socially viable" experience for *all* its students through:

- Continuing to work with residents of Buckeye Village and ensuring that every reasonable measure is taken to mitigate the potential adverse effects the anticipated construction project might bring upon those residents;
- Continuing a series of listening sessions, begun with current residents of Buckeye Village, reaching out to include other graduate students in focus groups and/or surveys by the 2nd week of Spring Semester 2017;
- Using data gathered in those activities to begin an immediate study and planning process for addressing the housing needs of students with dependents, as well as graduate students more broadly;

- Presenting a plan for addressing the immediate and longer term future of family and graduate student housing at Ohio State by the November 2, 2017 meeting of the Ohio State University Board of Trustees.
- Active communication of the immediate 2017-2018 housing plan for graduate student housing to departments, faculty, and graduate school applicants for the 2017 - 2018 academic year before February 2017.

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the Council directs the Secretary and President of CGS to advocate for this position on behalf of the Council to all appropriate members of the Ohio State University Community, including all relevant committees.