Creation of a Sexual Health and Conduct Ambassadorship
Resolution Number No. 27

SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca Mooney '18, Senator
Nisha Divan '18, Senator

CO-SPONSORS: Robin Graziano '16, Senator
Rochelle Sun '19, Legislative Aide
Criswell Lavery '19, Legislative Aide

ENDORSED BY: Students' Association Senate Student Life Committee
UR SEGway
College Feminists

WHEREAS, the University of Rochester is responsible for creating a safe environment and providing resources for its students; and,

WHEREAS, on May 26th, 2015, the University of Rochester announced that the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights would be conducting a Title IX investigation, thereby inciting further concerns about sexual health and conduct on campus; and,

WHEREAS, the position of Health Educator in the office of University Health Services (UHS) is currently vacant, consequently leaving students with fewer sexual health resources and training opportunities than have been provided in previous years; and,

WHEREAS, the Student Life Committee held a focus group with the It’s On Us Committee and representatives from College Feminists, Men Opposing Violence Everywhere, and SEGway, the efforts of whom determined that creating a Sexual Health and Conduct Ambassadorship would be beneficial; and,

1 http://www.rochester.edu/newscenter/university-statement-on-ocr-notification/
2 https://www.rochester.edu/uhs/healthpromotion/hpstaff.html
3, 4 Link to survey results
WHEREAS, a group of 86 undergraduate students completed a survey regarding the sexual assault prevention and bystander intervention training that is currently available at the University of Rochester, the results of which indicate both a need and a desire for more comprehensive sexual health and conduct training; and,

WHEREAS, when asked about interest in a new Sexual Health and Conduct Ambassadorship, students reported positive support for a program designed to train select upperclassmen to serve as residential ambassadors in freshman dorms; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Rochester already employs similar programs—such as residential EcoReps, D’lions, and Freshman Fellows—demonstrating that a Sexual Health and Conduct Ambassadorship could very easily be implemented in freshman dorms; and,

WHEREAS, the parameters of this ambassadorship could be incorporated as one of the responsibilities of the University’s Freshman Fellows or D’Lions; and,

WHEREAS, the Sexual Health and Conduct Ambassadors would have access to multiple University resources, including the Title IX Coordinators, UHS, SEGway, Public Safety, and SWARM, providing for the appropriate and thorough training of potential ambassadors,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the University of Rochester Students’ Association advocates for the creation of a Sexual Health and Conduct Ambassadorship;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the nature of this Ambassadorship is recommended to entail the selection of upperclassman trained in sexual assault prevention and bystander intervention, who shall then be assigned to live in specific residence halls.

Ethan Bidna
Speaker, Students’ Association Senate

Grant Dever
President, Students’ Association

Senate Votes:
Yes: 15  No: 0  Abs: 0  Date: 02/08/2016