

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT  
of  
LOYOLA CHICAGO

**MEASURE OF THE SENATE**

**The Residential Curriculum Sustainability Module Resolution**

*To Encourage The Department of Residence Life of Loyola University Chicago to Incorporate  
a Sustainability Module Into the Residential Curriculum.*

03/02/2021 Date Introduced to the Senate

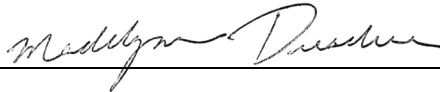
**03/16/2021 Date Passed Senate**

26 - 0 - 0

**to be filed by the Chief Operations Officer of the Senate**

5 - 0 - 0

**to be filed by the Chief Justice**



**Date:** 03/21/2021

Signed by the President of the Student Government of Loyola Chicago



**Date:** 03/23/2021

Signed by the Chief Justice of the Student Government of Loyola Chicago

**Chiefly Sponsored By:**

Senator Kathryn Caputo

Senator Elizabeth Thilges

**Co-Sponsored By:**

Senator Noah Akins

Senator Alexandra Brist

Senator Margaret Bronec

Senator Ella Doyle

Senator Hannah Kwak

Senator Nabhan Rafiq

Senator Luke Schmidt

Senator Rohan Sethi

**The Residential Curriculum Sustainability Module Resolution**  
***To Encourage The Department of Residence Life of Loyola University Chicago to Incorporate  
a Sustainability Module Into the Residential Curriculum.***

- <sup>1</sup>Whereas,** The Sustainability Mission Statement of Loyola University Chicago, hereafter referred to as LUC, states,
- “Sustainability at Loyola is driven by our Jesuit tradition of social justice, our service to humanity, and our role as an institution of higher education. It is embodied in an educational experience for our students and activities that seek to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We are committed to an inclusive process considering... environmental impacts and exemplified in a transformative education for our students”<sup>1</sup>, and*
- <sup>2</sup>Whereas,** The Mission of the Student Government of Loyola Chicago, hereafter referred to as the SGLC, is,
- “to voice the concerns of the student body, to act as an instrument for the cooperation of students, faculty and administration ... and to be a voice for student opinions concerning the... affairs of the University”<sup>2</sup>, and*
- <sup>3</sup>Whereas,** The Mission Statement of the Office of Campus Sustainability under LUC’s School of Environmental Sustainability, hereafter referred to as SES, states,
- “Loyola University Chicago is committed to a sustainable future through academics and research as well as our co-curricular activities and campus infrastructure”<sup>3</sup>, and*
- <sup>4</sup>Whereas,** The Mission Statement of the Department of Residence Life at LUC, hereafter referred to as Residence Life, states,
- “In partnership with our residents, the Department of Residence Life enhances the Loyola Experience by providing safe and supportive living communities where students can... develop a deeper understanding of their impact on the world”<sup>4</sup>, and*

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<sup>1</sup>[Campus Sustainability](#)

<sup>2</sup>[The Articles of Governance of the Student Government of Loyola Chicago](#)

<sup>3</sup>[Campus Sustainability](#)

<sup>4</sup>[LUC Residence Life Statement](#)

- <sup>5</sup>Whereas,** The Residence Life Vision states that,  
*“Through our innovative practices, living on campus will become an integral part of the educational experience and help prepare students to create meaningful change in the world”<sup>5</sup>, and*
- <sup>6</sup>Whereas,** According to the Residence Life Learning Outcomes , students who participate in Residence Life services and programs will be able to,  
*“explore, articulate, and act consistently with their personal values, while understanding how their actions impact others”<sup>6</sup>, and*
- <sup>7</sup>Whereas,** The Residence Life Educational Priority Statement states,  
*“The Department of Residence Life enhances the Loyola experience by preparing our residents to live extraordinary lives, guided by Jesuit values”<sup>7</sup>, and*
- <sup>8</sup>Whereas,** One of the Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus is Caring for our Common Home, and the Jesuits recognize that,  
*“Today’s environmental crisis is impacting in a particular way on the poor and vulnerable. Action is needed urgently by Christians and by all people of good will. Whole nations and peoples need an ecological conversion if we are to be honest custodians of this wonderful planet. We can still change the course of history”<sup>8</sup>, and*
- <sup>9</sup>Whereas,** The Jesuits recognize all peoples are capable of taking action to protect our planet and alter our society's behavior in order to prevent environmental crises, and
- <sup>10</sup>Whereas,** Pope Francis spoke on environmental sustainability in his 2<sup>nd</sup> Encyclical *Laudato Si’*, stating that,  
*“the duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations, and that human beings, endowed with intelligence, must respect the laws of nature and the delicate equilibria existing between the creatures of this world”<sup>9</sup>, and*
- <sup>11</sup>Whereas,** Human activities are estimated to have caused approximately,

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<sup>5</sup>[Residence Life Mission](#)

<sup>6</sup>[Residence Life Mission](#)

<sup>7</sup>[Education Priority Statement](#)

<sup>8</sup>[Caring for our Common Home](#)

<sup>9</sup>[Laudato si’](#)

*“1.0°C of global warming above pre-industrial levels, and global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate”<sup>10</sup>, and*

**<sup>12</sup>Whereas,** Students’ actions influence the impact of college campuses’ on the environment in the following ways:

*“energy and water consumption, food waste, single use plastic, disposal of recyclable and compostable materials, and paper use”<sup>11</sup>, and*

**<sup>13</sup>Whereas,** College campuses in the United States have negative impacts on the environment, as,

*“each college student produces an average of 640 pounds of solid waste each year, college students contribute over 200 million tons of waste per year, and colleges spend an average of \$1.10 per square foot (ft 2) on electricity and 18c/ft 2 on natural gas per year”<sup>12</sup>, and*

**<sup>14</sup>Whereas,** LUC acknowledges that sustainability must be at the forefront of the university’s mission to social justice, as,

*“sustainability at Loyola is driven by our Jesuit tradition, our service to humanity and our role as an institution of higher learning. It is embodied in an educational experience and activities that seek to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We are committed to an inclusive process of University decision-making considering social, economic and environmental impacts and exemplified in a transformative education for our students”<sup>13</sup>, and*

**<sup>15</sup>Whereas,** Other departments of LUC offer educational programs and modules, and require,

*“Students... to complete online courses called AlcoholEdu and Sexual Assault Prevention for Undergraduates/Graduates... to*

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<sup>10</sup>[IPCC Headline Statements from the Summary for Policymakers](#)

<sup>11</sup>[Waste Not, Want Not: A Student Manual To Create Zero Waste College Campuses](#)

<sup>12</sup>[Waste Not, Want Not: A Student Manual To Create Zero Waste College Campuses](#)

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.luc.edu/sustainabilitycommittee/sustainabilityatloyola/>

*provide students with important information and resources around alcohol abuse prevention and sexual violence prevention”<sup>14</sup>, and*

**<sup>16</sup>Whereas,**

The Residential Curriculum,

*“puts learning at the forefront of the residential experience at Loyola University Chicago. By living in the residence halls, students will have the opportunity to learn important skills and knowledge that enhance their experience at Loyola”<sup>15</sup>, and*

**<sup>17</sup>Whereas,**

The Residential Curriculum presents a unique opportunity for fostering sustainable practices and environmental awareness in students living on campus, and the implementation of an educational sustainability module into the Residential Curriculum would encourage these behaviors, and

**<sup>18</sup>Whereas,**

Members of the Residents, Commuters, and Dining Committee of the SGLC met with the Residence Hall Association on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February, 2021 to discuss the benefits of incorporating a sustainability module into the Residential Curriculum and established a partnership in the development of this initiative.

**<sup>1</sup>Be It Resolved,**

The SGLC encourages the Department of Residence Life to incorporate an obligatory sustainability module into the Residential Curriculum, and

**<sup>2</sup>Be It Resolved,**

The SGLC, in partnership with the Residence Hall Association and the Student Environmental Alliance, commits to the creation of this project in collaboration with the Department of Residence Life and the Office of Sustainability.

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<sup>14</sup>[Requirements for incoming students](#)

<sup>15</sup><https://www.luc.edu/reslife/currentstudents/residentialcurriculum/>