



Resolution CALLING FOR AN ON-CAMPUS VOTING SITE (Resolution 2015-04)

Whereas on-campus voting sites increase student voting accessibility,

Whereas voting is an essential part of our civic responsibility and the democratic process,

Whereas North Carolina has been a closely contested state in recent Presidential and local elections¹,

Whereas recently approved state laws would already reduce early voting periods, eliminate the ability to simultaneously register and vote, and strengthen voter identification and registration requirements²,

Whereas an on-campus voting site would help us comply with these new requirements,

Whereas our ability to vote advances Duke's expressed interest in engaging the larger North Carolina community on regional and educational issues³; now, therefore be it

Resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Council:

1. Supports ongoing administration efforts to determine possible on-campus voting sites that meet the state's accessibility requirements.⁴
2. Asks the administration to update the university public on these efforts
3. Asks the administration to communicate to the Durham County Board of Elections regarding potential sites in time for public discussion at the November 10 canvassing meeting and consideration at the December 15, 2015 Board of Elections business meeting.⁵
4. Can and will encourage students to use an on-campus voting site through our newsletter, social media and General Assembly Members

Signed,



Abigail LaBella

President, Graduate and Professional
Student Council
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Movant: Colleen McClean
General Assembly Representative for
Medical Scientist Training Program,
Graduate and Professional Student
Council

Second: Allison Saito
General Assembly Representative for
Duke University Economics Ph.D
Program,
Graduate and Professional Student
Council

Date approved by the Council:
November 3rd 2015

CITATIONS

¹ Kyle Kondik , Geoffrey Skelley and Larry J. Sabato, "The 2016 Results We Can Already Predict: The battleground states will give you déjà vu." *Politico* May 3, 2015. <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2015/05/2016-predictions-117554#ixzz3ZAPUcYxT>

²Michael Hewlett, "North Carolina leads in national trend to roll back voting rights, author says" *Winston-Salem Journal* October 9, 2015 http://www.journalnow.com/news/elections/north-carolina-leads-in-national-trend-to-roll-back-voting/article_eb0ad237-9ef1-5da9-9412-9c722bc3dbad.html. See also: <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2013/Bills/House/PDF/H589v9.pdf>. The laws are not in effect for the 2015 municipal elections, but if upheld on appeal will be in effect for the 2016 Presidential Election. See the website for the North Carolina State Board of Elections for further details, <http://www.ncsbe.gov/ncsbe/>.

³ "Message from the Vice President" *Office of Durham & Regional Affairs*, <https://community.duke.edu/a-message-from-the-vice-president/>.

⁴ See: "Voting Accessibility" *State Board of Elections*: <https://www.ncsbe.gov/ncsbe/voting-accessibility>. Some in the university community have suggested the Rubenstein Library or the soon-completed West Union Building as possible sites. See: Likhitha Butchireddygar, "Challenges for student voters outlined at teach in" *Duke Chronicle* October 28, 2015. <http://www.dukechronicle.com/article/2015/10/challenges-for-student-voters-outlined-at-teach-in>.

⁵ For full 2015 Durham Board of Elections meeting schedules see: <http://dconc.gov/home/showdocument?id=13237>.