

The Vassar Student Association Resolution 27-7
A Resolution for a New Women's Center
Author: Women's Center Student Advisory Board

Whereas, “the Campus Life Women’s Center supports and celebrates women’s leadership; provides empowering spaces for female-identified people; takes action to address gender inequity on campus; provides programming and resources on local, national and global gender issues; honors Vassar College’s unique history; and promotes understanding among people of different genders, cultures, abilities, beliefs, ethnic backgrounds, abilities and sexual orientations,”¹

Whereas, at the Forum on Women’s Leadership and Empowerment in November 2012, students reported that there was a need on campus for more discussions, workshops, and events for female-identified people,

Whereas, there are many student organizations for female-identified people that would benefit strongly from having a space to hold general body meetings and put on programs and events,

Whereas, many of our peer institutions have significantly larger and more centralized centers for women on their campuses,²

Whereas, the current space for the Women’s Center is too small (125 square feet) for students to meet, let alone have discussions, workshops, or events that would assist in unifying diverse groups of women on campus and empower and training female leaders,

Whereas, the LGBTQ Center (542 square feet), the Bayit (3,110 square feet) and the ALANA Center (3,666 square feet) have proved to be invaluable resources for student organizations to hold meetings, for individual students to explore and affirm their identities through discussion and programming, and for raising awareness about identity-related issues,

Therefore, let it be resolved, that the Vassar Student Association endorses finding a larger, more centralized physical space for the Campus Life Women’s Center that accommodates the needs and functions of an empowering and supportive place for students, faculty and staff around issues of gender.

¹ Source: Campus Life Women’s Center Mission Statement

² Bowdoin College: <http://www.bowdoin.edu/womens-resource-center/index.shtml>
Brown University: <http://www.brown.edu/campus-life/support/sarah-doyle-center/>
Haverford College: <http://news.haverford.edu/blogs/womenscenter/about/>
Middlebury College: <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/ws/chellishouse>
Swarthmore College: <http://www.swarthmore.edu/student-life/womens-center.xml>