Vassar Student Association Resolution 27 -
A Resolution in Support of Peer-Advising Training for Athletic Team Student Leaders
Principal Author: Vincent Marchetta

WHEREAS athletic teams serve as close-knit communities for groups of students on campus, and the overall college experiences of Vassar student-athletes are in many ways unique.

WHEREAS statistically, college athletes may be at increased risk for self-destructive and/or high-risk behaviors.

WHEREAS the student leaders of athletic teams, including team captains and/or team SAAC representatives, serve as role models and play an important role in shaping the social structure of their teams and influencing the college experience of their teammates.

WHEREAS athletic teams have the potential to provide various forms and spaces of support and guidance for athletes as well as access to important college resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the VSA Council recognizes the special needs of Vassar student-athletes, and the need for student leaders of athletic teams to have the skill set and knowledge of campus resources to effectively support and promote the physical and emotional well-being of their teams.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council supports the work of student athletes in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Students to establish a training program in peer-advising for athletic team student leaders. This training should be similar in content to the type of training received by student fellows, including but not limited to training on social consciousness, sexual assault and violence prevention, alcohol and substance abuse, suicide prevention, conflict mediation, and leadership training. Additionally, the Council encourages the Office of Residential Life, the Department of Athletics & Physical Education, and other relevant areas of the college administration to cooperate in these efforts to better the student-athlete experience.