



April 26, 2024

Resolution in Support of the Gheens Science Hall and Rauch Planetarium

Whereas, the Faculty Senate has endorsed the statement that "The Planetarium is an asset to UofL and the community and should remain open," and has proposed the establishment of a Supervisory Committee to explore long-term viability options for the Gheens Science Hall and Rauch Planetarium;

Whereas, the Student Government Association recognizes the educational significance of the Gheens Science Hall and Rauch Planetarium, and advocates for its protection and continuation as an essential resource for students and the community;

Whereas, previous attempts to close the Rauch Planetarium have been met with intense public backlash, underscoring its historical significance and community impact;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Staff Senate of the University of Louisville:

1. Expresses its full support for the Faculty Senate's statement endorsing the importance of keeping the Rauch Planetarium open and its proposal to establish a Supervisory Committee to explore long-term viability options.
2. Acknowledges the Student Government Association's recognition of the educational value and community impact of the Rauch Planetarium and commits to working collaboratively with students, faculty, and administration to ensure its preservation.
3. Calls upon university administration to heed the request for the delay of any irrevocable decision about the Rauch Planetarium until a Supervisory Committee, comprised of Administration, Faculty, Student and Staff representation, releases its findings to university stakeholders, enabling informed decision-making.
4. Encourages active engagement and participation from staff, faculty, students, alumni, and community members in discussions and initiatives aimed at preserving and enhancing the Rauch Planetarium.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the university administration, including the President, Provost, as well as to the Faculty Senate, Student Government Association, and other relevant stakeholders.

Respectfully,

Staff Senate