UNH FACULTY SENATE MOTION# XXIII- M21 on the need for UNH family housing

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UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION# XXIII- M21
on the need for UNH family housing

1. Motion presenter: Danielle Pillet-Shore, on behalf of the Campus Planning Committee

2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion: 04/01/2019, 04/15/2019

3. Motion:

Whereas, as of June 30, 2019, UNH’s only on-campus family housing option (the building complex known as Forest Park) is scheduled to be closed for demolition; and

Whereas, the Faculty Senate has already passed two previous motions about the importance of family housing at UNH: Motion XV-M7 (2011) and Motion XIII-M14 (2009); and

Whereas, the 2012 Campus Master Plan (pg. 44-45) – citing a 2010 study – indicated the need for affordable campus housing to accommodate at least 40-50 married/partnered graduate students with no children, 15-20 students with families, and 15-20 post-docs/scholars/faculty, and made specific recommendations to meet this need; and

Whereas, dating back to 2006, many faculty supporting UNH’s diversity initiatives expressed deep concerns about a lack of affordable family housing at UNH; and

Whereas, in October of 2018, junior faculty in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences wrote and sent a letter to President James Dean in which they expressed their concern regarding UNH’s decision to close Forest Park; and

Whereas, the University of New Hampshire is the state’s public flagship research university and an R1 research institution; and

Whereas, such housing is part of UNH’s academic mission in line with President James Dean’s January 24, 2019 Four Strategic Priorities address; therefore, be it

Resolved: that safe, affordable, proximate couple/family housing for use by graduate students, international students, and early career faculty with spouses/families should be a strategic priority to help fulfill UNH’s responsibility to recruit and support, train and retain new scholars; and, be it further

Resolved: that the Faculty Senate urges the University Administration to designate safe, affordable, proximate family housing for use by graduate students, international students, and early career faculty with families.

4. Senate action: The motion passed unanimously with 55 in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

5. Senate Chair, Robert S. Smith

Forwarded to the following on 05/03/2019:

President James Dean
Provost Wayne Jones
P.T. Vasudevan, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Chris Clement, Vice President for Finance & Administration
David May, Associate Vice President of Business Affairs
All deans
Jordan Coulombe, President, Graduate Student Senate