

THE SENATE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT BODY

Resolution 2008/9-2

A Resolution to support the petition pertaining to the situation of international students on fee waivers that is being sent to President Carol Cartwright.

1 WHEREAS the presence of international students is key to having a truly diverse student
2 body; and

3 WHEREAS some international students have received fee waivers from the University
4 through the Center for International Programs (CIP); and

5 WHEREAS at the beginning of this academic year, CIP notified eighty-two international
6 students with fee waivers that their fee waivers were being revoked; and

7 WHEREAS although nearly forty of the eighty-two affected students have been reinstated
8 with their fee waivers, there are currently forty-two international students, in particular
9 seven nursing and medical technology students, who have unresolved issues; and

10 WHEREAS these issues include the CIP's decision the year that international students
11 with fee waivers must complete their programs in eight semesters; and

12 WHEREAS another issue is the CIP's decision this year that international students with
13 fee waivers must have a 3.0 GPA, which is contrary to previous practice of CIP, which
14 was that international students with fee waivers must meet the GPA requirements of their
15 programs; and

16 WHEREAS another issue for the seven nursing and medical students, their programs
17 generally take more than eight semesters to complete; and

18 WHEREAS these students were advised to take summer courses, and at the beginning of
19 this academic year, CIP notified these students that it did not cover the cost of these
20 summer programs, as it had in the past, and that the students themselves were personally
21 responsible for the cost; and

22 WHEREAS the cost of these summer programs are up to \$5,000 dollars per student; and

23 WHEREAS CIP worked up a payment solution that equated to these students having to
24 pay \$1,000 a month; and

25 **WHEREAS** international students can only generally work the set amount of hours a
26 week as put forth by their visas, and they can only work on campus receiving campus
27 minimum wage; and

28 **WHEREAS** the international students who receive these fee waivers receive them
29 because of financial need, which also makes it very difficult for these students to pay such
30 an amount; and

31 **WHEREAS** members of the BGSU faculty have written a petition to give to President
32 Carol Cartwright to address this issue; and

33 **WHEREAS** the faculty who wrote the petition have stressed that the faculty be involved
34 in the restructuring of the international fee waiver system, which the director of CIP has
35 agreed with; and

36 **WHEREAS** the faculty has requested that fee waivers are reinstated for all of the affected
37 students for the rest of their degree programs; and

38 **WHEREAS** the faculty has also requested that bursar balances due to tuition be cleared
39 for the affected students; and

40 **WHEREAS** the faculty presenting the petition have requested a moratorium on new
41 international student fee waivers to facilitate the University's support for students that are
42 already here; and

43 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the BGSU student government support this
44 petition based on these facts, and in so doing support our international students.