Senate Passes Anti-Heterosexism Bill

After a fiery debate, the TCU Senate voted Monday to pass a resolution sponsored by the Tufts Transgendered, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Collective to eliminate heterosexism and homophobia on campus. With a 22-2-0 vote, the senators agreed to present the administration with the resolution, which calls for the allowance of opposite-sex dorm roommates and a minor in lesbian, gay and bisexual studies.

Senators voting to support the resolution included: freshmen Tommy Calvert, Victoria Crispin, Ben Hayden, Jesse Levey, Alethea Pieters, Erin Ross, Michele Shelton, Anoop Swaminath, Kristi Tough and Dan Zandman; sophomores Neil Farbman, Robyn Herzog, Alyssa Heumann, David Moon, Ayodeji Perrin, Moira Poe and Maria Speridakos; and juniors Larry Harris, Ralan Hill, Brian Korb and Vivek Ramgopal.

Sophomores Tamar Jeknavorian and Marc Lipson opposed the bill.

Excerpts from the Resolution To Eliminate Heterosexism and Homophobia at Tufts:

Article I. Tufts University should address all concerns raised in the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues Task Force Report and The R.O.T.C. Task Report in an obvious, public and prompt manner.

Article IV. The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Resource Center should be funded at a rate comparable to the other culture centers on campus.

Article VI. The University should have an interdisciplinary lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered minor in the College of Arts and Sciences, and that the faculty are encouraged to pursue that possibility in the coming years.

Article VIII. The administration, specifically the Office of Admissions and Human Resources, should investigate the possible benefits, disadvantages and methods of gathering statistics on the sexual orientation of Tufts students, faculty and staff.

Article X. Residential Life should adopt a policy of co-education and nondiscrimination in housing, so that opposite gender students can choose to be roommates.

—compiled by Sarah Welch