**RESOLUTION 16-04**

**A RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE GPSF SENATE LISTSERV AS PUBLIC AND OPEN TO LOCAL NEWS ORGANS**

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<td>06 SEP 2016</td>
<td>INTRODUCED BY BRIAN A. COUSSENS, GPSF VP OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS</td>
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<td>06 SEP 2016</td>
<td>PASSED 47-8-0 BY THE GPSF SENATE</td>
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**WHEREAS,** all official communications for the GPSF Senate occur through the GPSF Senate Listserv and the Listserv occasionally functions as a means to facilitate Senate discussion and debate,

**WHEREAS,** the editor of the University Section of the Daily Tarheel was added to the GPSF Senate Listserv in 2015–16 to grant the newspaper access to public Senate materials, such as public and pending resolutions and bills, in a timely fashion,

**WHEREAS,** no notification was given to the members of the Senate of this change,

**WHEREAS,** this state of affairs led to a situation in the 2015–16 academic year in which the Daily Tarheel had access to conversations which members incorrectly understood only to be accessible to other members except through a legal open records request and in which the Daily Tarheel used content from these emails without obtaining permission of the authors, understanding the permissions granted to them as meaning every conversation on the listserv was on the record,

**WHEREAS,** although the Senate Listserv is administered by the GPSF Executive Board, particularly the GPSF Vice-President of Internal Affairs and GPSF Secretary, as a place of Senate discourse, the determination of membership of the Listserv properly belongs to the Senate,

**WHEREAS,** the Graduate and Professional Student Federation, as a representative body of the graduate and professional students of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, operates under a principle of open and visible governance,
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT FEDERATION that the GPSF Senate endorses and upholds this principle of open and visible governance

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the Daily Tarheel’s University Section editor on the GPSF Senate listserv is re-affirmed and approved;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any recognized local news organs may be added to the listserv by the GPSF Executive Board upon notification of the GPSF Senate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any emails sent over the GPSF listserv are now and henceforth considered a matter of public record.

Done this day, the sixth of September two thousand and sixteen.

Brian A. Coussens  
Vice President of Internal Affairs

G. Dylan Russell  
President