

RESOLUTION OF THE BLOOMINGTON FACULTY COUNCIL

WHEREAS General Peter Pace, USM, served as Vice-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2001-2005 and as Chairman from 2005-2007. He (a) oversaw the largest fleet of marine and air craft in the nation and one of the largest in the world, (b) oversaw more than 2.4 million employees, (c) was responsible for a budget in excess of \$700 billion, (d) reported directly to the President of the United States and met with him regularly, and (e) made life and death decisions that affected thousands of people. These experiences placed him in a unique position to share his lessons learned related to making tough decisions. It was for these reasons that the Kelley School of Business invited him to participate in a presentation, "Leadership: From the Boardroom to the Pentagon" and awarded him a distinguished university honor, the Poling Chair of Business and Government.

WHEREAS General Pace had responsibility for enforcing the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy of the U.S. armed forces (10 U.S.C. § 654) which prohibits anyone who "demonstrate(s) a propensity or intent to engage in homosexual acts" from serving in the armed forces of the United States or from speaking about his or her homosexual relationships. During his tenure more than 5000 members of the U.S. armed forces were dishonorably discharged for homosexuality.

WHEREAS in a March 12, 2007 interview with the Chicago Tribune, Gen. Pace said, "I believe homosexual acts between two individuals are immoral... I do not believe the United States is well served by a policy that says it is okay to be immoral in any way... As an individual, I would not want [acceptance of gay behavior] to be our policy."

WHEREAS on March 13, 2007, Pace released a statement reading, "In expressing my support for the current policy, I also offered some personal opinions about moral conduct. I should have focused more on my support of the policy and less on my personal moral views." He declined to apologize or to retract his statement equating homosexuality with immorality. General Pace's beliefs regarding homosexuality, which are grounded in his religious faith, reveal an inherent bias against homosexuality.

WHEREAS on September 30, 2008, immediately prior to Gen. Pace's first visit campus, the Kelley School of Business issued a statement saying that "We do not see Gen. Pace's presence on campus as a Kelley School endorsement of his personal beliefs."

WHEREAS no one was invited to participate with Gen. Pace in the leadership program who held contrary views of homosexuality, the events have so far been closed to the public and no interviews with the press have so far been granted. There have been meetings between Gen. Pace and selected members of the campus gay and lesbian community, but there has not yet been any significant opportunity for members of the Bloomington campus community to question him about his views.

WHEREAS university policy prohibits discrimination based on arbitrary characteristics such as sexual orientation or religious beliefs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that although we fully endorse the concept that speakers representing all viewpoints should be invited to campus, when speakers representing controversial viewpoints are invited, effort must be made to facilitate open discussion and the exchange of ideas. We therefore believe that during General Peter Pace's visits to campus this year, the Kelley School should facilitate opportunities for Gen. Pace to be interviewed by the press and to appear at forums in which members of the community are welcome and may ask questions, and to invite a speaker of equivalent stature who holds contrary views concerning homosexuality. Efforts to date are not sufficient.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it was inappropriate to award Gen. Pace a university honor, the Poling Chair in Business and Government, when his views on homosexuality are so offensive to university policy and many members of the university community, without any advance guarantee that he would participate in an open and meaningful dialogue about his views. We urge the Kelley School to make sure that there are adequate opportunities for such a dialogue during Gen. Pace's visits, and urge all university administrators to demonstrate greater sensitivity to minority communities in the future.

Dated: November 18, 2008