A Resolution to Reinstate Need-Blind Admissions for All Applicants

WHEREAS College Council recognizes the value of the College’s existing financial-aid policies, which are among the most generous in the nation for domestic and international students alike;

WHEREAS College Council is concerned about the sharp reductions in the proportion of international students receiving financial aid, from 84% to 59%, and in the total amount of aid awarded to international students, from $6.3M to $4.6M, that occurred after the College terminated need-blind admissions for international applicants in 2010;

WHEREAS there exists ample precedent for admitting foreign nationals without regard for their ability to pay, given that six other national colleges—namely, Amherst College, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton University, and Yale University —currently uphold this ideal, and that Williams itself did so between 2001 and 2010;

WHEREAS international students bring unique perspectives to the classroom and the wider community and thus make an invaluable cultural contribution to the Williams campus;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council respectfully:
   1. Emphasizes that the College’s commitment to diversity and equality of opportunity must apply equally to students of all nationalities, particularly as regards admissions and financial aid.
   2. Urges the College to reinstate need-blind admissions for international students at the earliest opportunity.