

Bowdoin Student Government

Proposal for Vote

Proposal 0607001

Proposed by: Clark Gascoigne, Class of 2008 Representative

Date: September 27, 2006

ENDORSEMENT OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE TO IDENTIFY CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOWDOIN STUDENT GOVERNMENT (BSG) ASSEMBLY:

WHEREAS Bowdoin College is an institution of higher learning with an enduring commitment to the Common Good,

WHEREAS the Bowdoin Student Government recognizes that the College should refrain from taking positions that advocate specific religious, political, or economic issues,

WHEREAS the situation in the Darfur region of Sudan is unequivocally an act of genocide,

WHEREAS the Bowdoin Student Government recognizes that there exist rare occasions when an international consensus of outrage exists with regard to an exceptionally reprehensible situation, thereby justifying a course of action by the College,

WHEREAS the Advisory Committee on Darfur (ACOD) recommended the creation of a "permanent committee to identify crimes against humanity... to ensure the swift identification of international problems to which Bowdoin would have a moral obligation to respond,"

WHEREAS the President submitted his "Recommendation to the Trustees on The Bowdoin College Policy Relating to Darfur" this September,

WHEREAS the Bowdoin Student Government fully supports the majority of the suggestions presented in the President's recommendation,

WHEREAS the President of the College argued against the creation of a permanent committee in his recommendation,

WHEREAS there exist situations when a permanent committee to identify crimes against humanity will ensure a swift identification of future situations in which Bowdoin College has an obligation to respond,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Bowdoin Student Government hereby endorses the creation of a permanent committee to identify crimes against humanity. This permanent committee will be charged with identifying international problems to which Bowdoin has a moral obligation to respond. The committee will understand that the use of the endowment as a tool for activism should be utilized in only the most extreme situations. The committee should consist of members of the trustees, the faculty, the staff, and the student body.