

## Resolution Concerning Low Retention Rates at Carleton College

*The CSA Senate voted to endorse this resolution on 12 May 2008*

Whereas The October 25, 2007 edition of the *Journal of Blacks in Higher Education* reported, “Among the nation’s colleges and universities that are commonly rated as selective, the lowest black student graduation rate occurs at Carleton College in Minnesota. Currently only 66 percent of the black freshmen who enroll at Carleton College go on to graduate”; and

Whereas President Rob Oden, Dean of the College Scott Bierman, and Dean of Students Hudlin Wagner acknowledge that “...these retention data remind us and compel us to draw even more heavily on the energy and creativity of the community to develop new and more effective ways to improve the experience and success of all our students”; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Carleton Student Association Senate, as the representative governing body for all students, requests that Carleton College immediately host and publicize a campus-wide forum on strategies for addressing low graduation rates for black students; and

*Resolved*, That the Carleton Student Association Senate requests that Carleton College immediately introduce a comprehensive power and privilege training program for all incoming students. The CSA Senate suggests a similar program that would be part of the 2008-2009 academic year for First Year experience programs that would highlight these issues of privilege.

*Resolved*, That the Carleton Student Association Senate requests that Carleton College create accessible opportunities for students to participate in reformulations of the RAD requirement as part of the ongoing curricular review; and

*Resolved*, That the Carleton Student Association Senate requests that Carleton College, upon the release of data from its Campus Climate Survey in the fall of 2008, engage students in further dialogue about additional ways to alter Carleton College policies so as to improve the institution’s climate for marginalized students, specifically students of color.

*Resolved*, That the CSA Senate acknowledges the need to hold itself accountable for recommendations articulated in this resolution, by actively engaging the Carleton community in dialogue surrounding the aforementioned resolutions. In continuing support for these efforts, the CSA Senate will participate in a white privilege training program.