RESOLUTION:

TITLE: Co-Curricular Transcript and Community Learning Objectives

SPONSORS: Hannah Pustejovsky, Senior Senator

DATE: November 15, 2017

Whereas the Middlebury mission statement highlights a need to “strive to engage students' capacity for rigorous analysis and independent thought within a wide range of disciplines and endeavors”;¹

Whereas the mission statement also fosters “the pursuit of knowledge unconstrained by national or disciplinary boundaries”;²

Whereas the Middlebury life is a holistic experience that continues beyond the classroom and after traditional work hours;

Whereas the Office of the President acknowledges that “the essential bond of trust and assumption of good intentions that should unite us is broken”;³

Whereas the burden for fixing this bond of trust falls disproportionally on cultural organizations and marginalized students, particularly students of color;

Whereas the SGA Institutional Diversity Committee supports the “marginalized students and the students who have been continuously working and organizing to make our campus more inclusive and welcoming”;⁴

Whereas Middlebury already requires non-academic credits for graduation requirements such as physical education credits;

Whereas the development of community learning objectives and standards is equally as important as an emphasis on academic learning objectives;

Whereas a co-curricular transcript is a detailed record of involvement in various student activities and the out-of-class experiences, designed to highlight student participation and achievement of community learning goals;

¹ http://www.middlebury.edu/about/handbook_old/general/mission_statement
² http://www.middlebury.edu/about/handbook_old/general/mission_statement
³ Office of the President. Invitation to Community Conversation. Message to All Faculty, Staff, and Students. 8 Nov 2017. Email.
⁴ SGA. Institutional Diversity Committee: Community Conversation Follow-Up. Message to Students. 11 Nov 2017. Email.
Whereas schools such as Ithaca College, Iowa State University, Purdue University, St. John’s University, and University of California San Diego, offer a co-curricular transcript to supplement the traditional academic transcript;

Whereas our peer institution Wesleyan University allows for non-traditional learning through student forums, which are credit bearing courses taught by students during the academic semester and supported by faculty;

Whereas a focus on non-academic life and student-led activities will create stronger bonds between students;

Whereas it is impossible to have conversations about issues on campus when certain groups are not present;

Be it therefore resolved…

That the Student Government Association recommends the creation of a mandatory co-curricular experience to replace one of the physical education credits;

That the co-curricular and community experience should be a Dean of Students and Student Activities initiative;

That the Student Government Association will work with students, organizations, staff, community members, and other important persons to develop a curriculum;

That the Student Activities Office should explore possible platforms such as Presence to implement this program;

That the program shall be piloted during the Fall of 2018;

Finally, that the Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students should work together on ways to create a community that is inclusive and accessible for all.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Pustejovsky, Senior Senator

5 https://www.ithaca.edu/sacl/osema/leadership/cct/
6 http://www.cct.iastate.edu/
7 https://www.purdue.edu/sao/engagement/transcript.html
8 http://www.stjohns.edu/student-life/queens-campus-life/leadership-development/co-curricular-transcript
9 https://myccr.ucsd.edu/home.htm
10 http://www.wesleyan.edu/registrar/course_information/student_forum.html