

A Resolution entitled:
“Library Hours in Our Time”
From the Academics Committee

On Thursday May 4th of 2006 the Student Government Association of Westminster College passed a resolution regarding Library Hours. In the resolution, the governing body of students unanimously approved a desire to extend library hours Monday thru Thursday by one hour, three hours on Saturday, and an additional two hours on Sunday. Since that time there has been continual dialogue between the Administration of the college and the executives of SGA. In an effort to extend the right hand of fellowship and in hopes of reaching an agreement, SGA offers to the college a new resolution: for the purpose of reaffirming our commitment to this issue and in hopes that agreement might be reached.

Whereas, according to the Mission Statement of the College: “The mission of Westminster College is to help men and women develop competencies, commitments, and characteristics which have distinguished human beings at their best. The liberal arts tradition is the foundation of the curriculum continually designed to serve this mission in a rapidly changing world.”

Whereas a Liberal Arts Education can be defined as “studies intended to provide general knowledge and intellectual skills (rather than occupational or professional skills)”

Whereas it is the duty of Westminster College to provide the necessary academic environment for superior scholarship

Whereas students have continued to request extended hours

Whereas a significant portion of our comparison schools surpass our hours of operation

Whereas the Library has resources that students can use only while in the confines of the building

Whereas McGill, with its large collection of resources provides the best environment for the majority of students to perform their research thereby transcending a “Study Hall”

Whereas the McGill Library is the most important academic building on this campus for a majority of the student body

Whereas McGill is considered the “Mind, Heart, and Soul” of the campus

Whereas McGill is “the main library, (and) houses material on the fine arts, humanities, and social sciences.” Thereby being central to a majority of students’ curriculums and to the liberal arts objective

Whereas students will utilize the resources if the library is open longer

The Student Government Association of Westminster College resolves on this day, Thursday November 16, 2006 that Library Hours at McGill Library should be increased by 7 hours a week. This is an amended recommendation from our previous resolution which requested an additional nine hours a week. In an effort to reach an agreement with administration we concede our request for any extension of Sunday hours. Instead, we recommend that hours be extended until 12am Monday through Thursday (providing 4 hours a week) and on Saturdays extended from a 5pm closing time to an 8pm closing time, (providing another 3 hours). We hope that this concession will increase the possibility for a fruitful solution to this student problem.