Resolution in opposition to converting the third floor of the University Library to office space and moving high circulation library materials to storage.

Action Requested: An alternative plan be used for the temporary, or permanent, office space needed by the University, and that the Library materials be kept as is for students and faculty to access.

Resolution:
WHEREAS, the faculty and graduate and undergraduate students at the University at Albany depend upon the library collection to complete research for courses, dissertations, and theses; and

WHEREAS, the third floor of the University Library contains books for many social science and humanities departments including Anthropology, Education, History, Latin American, Caribbean, and US Latino Studies, Psychology, Political Science, and Sociology; and

WHEREAS, in the President’s address to the faculty last fall the President announced the intention to create an Institute for the Humanities at UAlbany; and

WHEREAS, removal of these books and placement in storage would hinder scholarly work and place undue burdens upon students wishing to access the materials; and

WHEREAS, the third floor of the library, under the new “Zones” system, offers students a silent place to study;

Be it resolved, that the University at Albany Graduate Student Association strongly recommends that the University not remove library materials from the third floor of the University Library to create office space and not place them in storage or in an area only staff can access; and

Be it resolved that the GSA supports the alternative solutions given to facilitates by the Interim Dean and Director of Libraries to move low-use materials such as bound periodicals to storage and leaving high circulation materials where they could be accessed easily by faculty, staff, and students should no other alternative be possible: moving the bound periodicals out of the basement of the University Library, replacing book stacks in the Science Library basement with compact shelving, moving the bound periodicals on the second floor of the Science Library to remote storage, or renovating the Science Library Atrium for office space; and

Be it resolved, that the GSA offers the additional suggestion of converting some of the many underutilized, technology free classrooms in academic buildings into office space; and
Be it resolved that this resolution shall be forwarded to the University at Albany President, Provost, Dean of Undergraduate Education, Dean of Graduate Education, Interim Dean of the University Libraries, the Chair of the Senate, Chair of Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing Council, the Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration, the Director of the Office of Campus Planning, and the President of the Student Association.