Graduate Student Senate of the Georgia Institute of Technology

WHEREAS the total monetary amount of mandatory student fees has increased by 150% over the past 10 years, presenting a substantial financial burden upon every graduate student attending Georgia Tech.

WHEREAS mandatory student fees can be considered to go beyond the traditional five fees of health, athletics, student activity, transportation, and technology and should be defined to include parking fees, the Academic Excellence Fee and mandatory student insurance enrollment.

WHEREAS the Georgia Institute of Technology currently ranks sixth among its peer institutions in terms of total semester cost of mandatory student fees that only includes the 5 mandatory student fees plus the Academic Excellence Fee.

WHEREAS the total yearly costs of the before mentioned fees amounts to approximately 2.5 months of the average yearly graduate stipend.

WHEREAS concern is explicitly raised over the Academic Excellence Fee due to a lack of transparent purpose and student input and the inability to discuss its imposition upon the graduate student body.

WHEREAS higher than average fees may adversely affect graduate recruitment and retention.

WHEREAS the Graduate Student Government Association understands the necessity of some fees to sustain vital campus services for the benefit of all members of the Georgia Tech Community.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Graduate Student Government of the Georgia Institute of Technology expresses its strongest concern over mandatory student fees spanning all categories mentioned here within and urges the administration to review the fee structure and its effects on current and prospective graduate population.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if adopted, the Secretary of the Senate of the Student Government Association shall deliver this signed resolution to the President, Provost, and Senior Vice Provost of the Georgia Institute of Technology and the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.

Adopted in the Graduate Senate on February 15, 2011.