



University of Miami Graduate Student Association
Getting  Connected!

Resolution #10 of the 2009-2010 Graduate Student Association

RESOLUTION TO PROTECT THE JOHN C. GIFFORD ARBORETUM

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WHEREAS, the University of Miami founded the Arboretum in 1947 and dedicated it to Mr. John C. Gifford, the first doctorate in forestry in the United States;

WHEREAS, the Arboretum currently displays over 500 species, provides research opportunities for the Biology Department, and attracts prospective students to enroll in the University;

WHEREAS, the Arboretum won federal grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to restore and expand exhibits after the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons;

WHEREAS, the Arboretum is beloved by students, faculty, employees, and campus neighbors as a place of beauty, learning, and rest; and

WHEREAS, no information has been provided by the University of Miami's Real Estate and Facilities on the inner road construction project to the student community, which is planned to pass through the Arboretum in Phase II.

WHEREAS, given the limited information on the inner road project it is believed that the current design would divide and obliterate extensive greenspace replacing it with asphalt pavement, thereby permanently damaging the teaching mission of the Biology Department, the aesthetic, and ecological quality of the space;

BE IT RESOLVED by Graduate Student Association that the John C. Gifford Arboretum should remain intact as a library of living knowledge, without being damaged by construction, so the garden may be fully enjoyed for generations to come.