

## **Fight Song Referendum**

WHEREAS, "(I'm a) Ramblin' Wreck from Georgia Tech," hereafter referred to as "the Fight Song," was officially adopted as Georgia Tech's Fight Song in 1905, though its origins at Georgia Tech trace back to 1893;

AND WHEREAS, when "The Ramblin' Wreck" became Georgia Tech's fight song in the early 1900s, the institution had no female students;

AND WHEREAS, a significant number of Georgia Tech students, alumni, faculty, staff, and administration in 2021 are women: who bring significant contributions to the Institution;

AND WHEREAS, 30.9% of the current student body is comprised of females, 39.3% of the undergraduate student body and 24.9% of the graduate student body;

AND WHEREAS, in 2015, the Student Government Association called a vote on a referendum for a proposed change to "The Ramblin' Wreck" and gender equality on campus;

AND WHEREAS, a total of 12,735 individual responses were collected from 7,543 undergraduate students, 2,009 graduate students, 137 faculty, 100 staff, and 2,946 alumni;

AND WHEREAS, 71.29% of all the respondents did not support changing the word "cheer" to "join" in the Ramblin' Wreck Song, with 82% of alumni and 68% of the undergraduate and graduate students opposing this change;

AND WHEREAS, 70.67% of all respondents did not think there was a pertinent issue of gender equality on our campus, with 73% of alumni and 70% of the undergraduate and graduate students offering this opinion;

AND WHEREAS, in February 2021, the School Chairs of each academic department submitted a formal request to honor Georgia Tech's women students in "The Ramblin' Wreck";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association approves a referendum of the Georgia Tech Student Body on the question of a proposed change to the Ramblin' Wreck Song with the following stipulations:

1. To which gender identity do you most identify with?
  - a. Female
  - b. Male
  - c. Non binary / third gender

d. Prefer Not to Answer

2. Please select the statement with which you most closely agree:

View the current lyrics in full [here](#)\*.

- I Support keeping the Ramblin' Wreck Song as is:
  - Oh, if I had a daughter, sir, I'd dress her in white and gold, and put her on the campus to cheer the brave and bold
- I support changing the word 'cheer' to 'join' in the Ramblin' Wreck Song:
  - Oh, if I had a daughter, sir, I'd dress her in white and gold, and put her on the campus to join the brave and bold

3. Please select the statement with which you most closely agree:

- I think there is a pertinent issue of gender equality on our campus.
- I do not think there is a pertinent issue of gender equality on our campus.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Undergraduate House of Representatives approves this referendum, seeking the current undergraduate student body's opinion on this matter, and directs the Undergraduate President to take executive action as necessary such that the referendum for undergraduate students can be held in parallel with the undergraduate presidential elections March 22, 2021 through March 26, 2021;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Graduate Student Senate approves this referendum, seeking the current graduate student body's opinion on this matter, and directs the Graduate Elections Chair to take action as necessary such that the referendum for graduate students can be held in parallel with the graduate presidential elections March 25, 2021 through March 29, 2021.

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