

Faculty for a Reserve Officers Training Corps Program

The affirmative case for an ROTC program at Columbia has been crowded out by debate over legislation prohibiting military service by open homosexuals. The repeal of that legislation makes it possible to clearly state that case, which can be briefly summarized:

- It is damaging to democratic ideals of equality that graduates of highly selective, private universities are so underrepresented in the nation's officer corps.
- That the officer corps is drawn disproportionately from non-urban settings and other regions of the nation creates an imbalance that benefits neither American society nor its military.
- At Columbia, military service should be recognized as a form of public service as is service in civil society.
- Our students' prevailing experience is of great personal distance from military service, limiting preparation for citizenship.
- Reciprocally, military leaders are often uncomprehending of the values for which Columbia and its peer institutions stand. A civil-military gap caused by mutual incomprehension is undesirable.
- Diversity in the student body including students preparing for military service would help alleviate this situation.
- The university should not put obstacles in the way of students who wish to serve as commissioned officers and, in so doing, help finance their educations.
- These propositions are independent of judgments as individual citizens of policies involving the armed forces, and about which the university is institutionally neutral.

Faculty signing this statement may not agree fully with all its features but all agree with the following:

**Provided that ROTC is subject to the same academic procedures as govern other programs,
we support the establishment of an ROTC program.**

MICHAEL ADLER (*School of Business*)

MARK H. ANDERS (*Earth/Environmental Sciences*)

JAMES APPLGATE (*Astronomy*)

RICHARD K. BETTS (*Political Science*)

JAGDISH BHAGWATI (*University Professor, Economics*)

PHILLIP C. BOBBITT (*Law*)

RONALD BRESLOW (*University Professor, Chemistry*)

DOUGLAS CHALMERS (*Political Science, Emeritus*)

FLORA DAVIDSON (*Political Science, Barnard*)

PADMA DESAI (*Economics*)

PAUL DUBY (*Engineering*)

RONALD E. FINDLAY (*Economics*)

ESTER R. FUCHS (*School of International/Public Affairs*)

TODD GITLIN (*Journalism/Sociology*)

SERGE GRAVRONSKY (*French, Barnard*)

JOHN HUBER (*Political Science*)

KENNETH T. JACKSON (*History*)

ROBERT L. JERVIS (*Political Science*)

KIMBERLEY JOHNSON (*Political Science, Barnard*)

ANGELOS D. KEROMYTIS (*Computer Science*)

MARK LILLA (*Humanities*)

ALFRED MAC ADAM (*Spanish, Barnard*)

ROBERT McCAUGHEY (*History, Barnard*)

KIMBERLY MARTEN (*Political Science, Barnard*)

LETTY MOSS-SALANTIJN (*College of Dental Medicine*)

ANDREW J. NATHAN (*Political Science*)

RICHARD M. PIOUS (*Political Science, Barnard*)

ROBERT E. POLLACK (*Biological Sciences*)

RON PRYWES (*Biological Sciences*)

JUDITH SHAPIRO (*President Emerita, Barnard*)

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Signatories as of February 16, 2011

To sign this statement or for more information, contact Allan Silver as35@columbia.edu