

West Virginia University The Student Assembly - Student Government Association Assembly Resolution: AR-2025-02-04

AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A PARTNERSHIP WITH CALLISTO AND CALLISTO VAULT

Short Title: Callisto-SGA Partnership

Author(s): Tris Silva, College Senator (Eberly)

Sponsor(s): Shelby Davis, Senator

Elise Vuiller, Senator

Peyton Bielinski, College Senator (CAHS)

Andrew O'Neal, Senator Molly Meeker, Senator

Katelyn Merlin, College Senator (HSC)
Gabriella Selders, College Senator (HSC)

Michael Mugnano, College Senator (Chambers)

Matthew Olivero, President Pro Tempore

Contributor(s):

Committee Endorsement: Sexual Assault Prevention Task Force

First Reading Date: 2/26/2025

Second Reading Date: 03/05/2025

Date of Approval: 03/05/2025

Presidential Signature: (Imple Grand

Whereas, the West Virginia University mission statement reads, "As a land-grant institution, the faculty, staff and students at West Virginia University commit to creating

a diverse and inclusive culture that advances [...] healthcare and prosperity;" and,

Whereas, the West Virginia University vision statement reads, "We are purposeful in our studies and our work so that we can partner with our communities [...] to bring needed and valued solutions to real-life problems within the pillars of education, healthcare, prosperity, and purpose;"² and,

Whereas, the West Virginia University Student Government Association (SGA) is a student advocacy group; and,

Whereas, SGA recognizes the necessity of additional resources to assist survivors of sexual assault on campus; and,

Whereas, 1 in 5 female students, 1 in 16 male students, and nearly 1 in 4 students who identify as transgender, genderqueer, nonconforming, questioning, or with another identity will experience sexual assault or rape while in college or university³; and,

Whereas, according to the National Sexual Violence Research Center, 63% of sexual assault cases do not get reported to the police⁴; and,

Whereas, a 2019 study found that more than 87% of alcohol-involved sexual assault incidents were committed by serial perpetrators, who committed on average at least five incidents each⁵; and,

¹ Mission - West Virginia University

² Vision - West Virginia University

³ Campus Sexual Violence | West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services (WV FRIS)

⁴ NSVRC Statistics about sexual violence

⁵ Is Campus Rape Primarily a Serial or One-Time Problem? Evidence From a Multicampus Study - John D. Foubert, Angela Clark-Taylor, Andrew F. Wall, 2020

Whereas, Callisto is a nonprofit organization that uses technology to empower survivors of sexual violence and seeks to expand the options and pathways toward healing and justice for student survivors of sexual assault; and,

Whereas, Callisto Vault is a third-party web-based suite of tools that allows student survivors to:

- **1.** Utilize the proprietary Matching System that allows a survivor to enter the unique identifiers of their perpetrator and if another survivor enters the same unique identifier, a Match occurs;
- **2.** Enter into the Matching System regardless of the university affiliation of their perpetrator;
- **3.** Upon a Match, be connected to a Legal Options Counselor, who will explain their options and facilitate collective action, while protecting survivor privacy;
- **4.** Utilize the Incident Log to document and share what happened with an attorney, therapist, friend, or university (now or in the future); and,

Whereas, Callisto and Callisto Vault is not an alternative to reporting nor does it serve as a reporting mechanism for West Virginia University; and,

Whereas, Callisto operates under jurisdiction and does not violate any privacy laws or share any information with the University, being merely an additional resource to already available resources to students, faculty and staff; and,

Whereas, the SGA wants to empower and prioritize privacy and allow for individual agencies to assist survivors of sexual assault at West Virginia University; and,

Whereas, the Division of Campus Engagement and Compliance has agreed to feature Callisto as a resource for students on their main website, as well as to incorporate it in their prevention and post-assault resources such as the Anonymous Hotline; and,

Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:

Section 1: SGA unequivocally advocates for and will provide support for Callisto on campus.

Section 2: SGA is encouraged to designate an internal representative to serve as the Callisto Ambassador to maintain annual contact with Callisto to support campus awareness building, social media marketing, programming, and engagement.

Section 3: SGA calls for the swift adoption and incorporation of Callisto and Callisto Vault into sexual assault prevention and post-assault resources at West Virginia University, including but not limited to the Safety and Wellness and the Division of Campus Engagement and Compliance websites.

Section 4: SGA calls on its members and the community to serve as advocates and proponents of Callisto.

Section 5: Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:

Mandates:

Meshea L. Poore, Vice President, Division of Campus Engagement and Compliance

Angela Cartwright, Director, Division of Campus Engagement and Compliance

Cortney Simmons, Assistant Director, Division of Campus Engagement and Compliance

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students

Sabrina Cave, Executive Director, Student Enrichment

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership (Advisor)

Sean Manning, News and Information Manager

Charlie Long, Student Body President

Abigail Browning, Student Body Vice President

Haley Orcutt, SGA Executive Secretary

Daily Athenaeum