



COLUMBIAESC

ENGINEERING STUDENT COUNCIL

Statement Regarding Orgo Night **Published via ESC Facebook Page, December 15th, 2016**

On Monday, December 12, 2016, the Columbia University Marching Band (CUMB) was notified by Provost John Coatsworth and University Librarian Ann Thorton that they would not be permitted to use Butler Library for their semesterly Orgo Night.

Orgo Night is a long-standing Columbia tradition dating back to 1975. It is an important event for many students and alumni and has a longevity beyond any one student's time on campus. Abruptly restricting the location of Orgo Night imposes a significant administrative change on a student-driven tradition.

The Engineering Student Council (ESC) is deeply concerned with the manner in which this decision was made. Handed down less than a week before the event, CUMB and other students were left little time to react. Additionally, this decision did not meaningfully include student input.

ESC recognizes that there have been concerns with the content of Orgo Night. This statement neither condemns nor condones this content. Rather, we are addressing the lack of transparency and timeliness in the decision-making process and its communication to the student body.

For those interested, CUMB will be congregating outside of Butler at 11:30 p.m. tonight. The Facebook event is here <https://www.facebook.com/events/219897425080447/?ti=icl>

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