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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Student Government to Hold Memorial for Victims of Virginia Tech Tragedy

Austin, TX – Wednesday, April 16, 2008 marks the one year anniversary of the Virginia Tech tragedy, in which many innocent people were shot, 32 fatally. Students and local residents will gather at The University of Texas in memory of the victims of violence in schools nationwide.

Student Government will be holding a memorial for the victims of the terrible tragedy that befell Virginia Tech on Wednesday from 12-1pm in the East Mall Bus Circle. The event is intended to draw attention to all instances of school violence across America and to inspire discourse.

“In 1966, The University of Texas at Austin experienced a terrible tragedy when a gunman opened fire on our campus. Instances of school violence in America are something we as a community need to come together to address to ensure that they do not continue to happen. On April 16, we come together to pay tribute to and remember those that lost their lives and their loved ones in a terrible tragedy in Blacksburg, Virginia. On April 16, we are all Hokies,” said Student Body President Keshav Rajagopalan.

One of the vigil’s organizers and current University of Texas graduate student, John O. Woods, graduated from Virginia Tech three weeks after the shooting, and was friends with several of the victims. “Violence in schools is a serious problem in this country, one that must be addressed,” said Woods. “Eight school shootings in the last twelve months is eight too many. It’s important that we establish a dialogue on this issue, or all of those lives have been lost in vain.”

Please join Student Government as we honor the victims, families, and all who were affected by the tragedy that day.

For more information, please contact Student Government Communications
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