



“Inclusivity Resolution”

Proposed Motion: Move to approve the Resolution in favor of equity in the classroom

Sponsor: ASVP for Academics Josie Ellison

Persons of Contact: Josie Ellison

Date: 4/3/2014

Attached Document

Resolution language attached.

Background & Context

This proposal is the end result of a process that began over the summer. A student was writing a story for the Western Front about inclusivity in the classroom and experiences that some students had where they faced discrimination because of the way they identify. After talking to the reporter I began to look into ways to begin to solve the problem of discrimination in the classroom and as course evaluations offer an anonymous option for students to provide feedback to professors thought that would be a good starting point. Since then I have spoken with the Faculty Senate President as well as the Registrar about the feasibility of the process and the way to change course evaluations on campus.

Summary of Proposal

This proposal is designed so that I have the full support of the Associated Students when I speak to Faculty Senate later this quarter about adding a question to course evaluations. The resolution attached voices support for marginalized identities on campus as well as recommends that the Faculty Senate strongly consider adding a question to course evaluations in support of students that may not be comfortable confronting discrimination in other ways.

Please contact me with any further questions about the resolution, the meeting with Faculty Senate, or the process that will be followed in order to add a question to evaluations.



Associated Students of Western Washington University
Board of Directors

A Resolution Regarding Inclusivity in the Classroom
February 2014

WHEREAS, Western Washington University prides itself on inclusive practices and works to ensure that it is “an environment that welcomes and embraces diversity” as stated in the University’s strategic plan; and,

WHEREAS, Western’s mission states that “diversity is immeasurable and [we] practice inclusion within the classroom, beyond the classroom, and throughout our community” with the classroom being a more than advantageous place to foster creation of an inclusive environment; and,

WHEREAS, Our student population is increasing in Ethnic diversity, as shown by changing enrollment with the 2013 class being the most diverse in history at 25%; and,

WHEREAS, According to the 2010 Campus Climate Survey 27% of Students of Color at Western said they witnessed discrimination, and 16% of Students of Color said they personally experienced discrimination on campus; and,

WHEREAS, Also according to the 2010 Campus Climate Survey 30% of LGBT students at Western said they witnessed discrimination, and 15% of LGBT students said they personally experienced discrimination on campus; and,

WHEREAS, The Associated Students as advocates for all Western students value inclusivity for people of all marginalized and underrepresented identities; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Associated Students recommends that the Faculty Senate of Western Washington University add a question centered on inclusivity in the classroom to course evaluations.

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