OC Gender Targeted Back Country Skiing Excursions Trip

**Proposed Motions:** Approve OC Backcountry Skiing Day as a gender targeted event

**Sponsor:** Chelsea Ghant

**Persons of Contact:** Brian Bates-OC Excursion Coordinator

**Guest Speaker:** Peter Dykes-OC Asst. Excursion Coord

**Date:** November 4th, 2014

**Attached Document**

**Background & Context**

The Outdoor Center is trying to diversify a lot of its resources and programs to ensure that we are meeting the mission of the organization as a whole. We have talked alongside Fred Collins and Stephen Magnuson and have discussed that it would be a great opportunity to have a female gender-targeted Outdoor Center excursions trip. The OC strives to provided excursion programming that is safe, inclusive, and a unique outdoor experience. We are always looking for ways to be more inclusive in our programming. This proposal is to give you all a better understanding why the Outdoor Center believes this is important to include as part of our winter excursion programming.

**Summary of Proposal**

The Outdoor Center would like to offer a gender-targeted outdoor center excursion to provide a safe, inclusive, and empowering event for female identified students.

This event upholds all aspects of the inclusion mission of the organization and of the OC for many reasons, one of them being that most outdoor related sports tend to be more male dominated in the outdoor world, and there is very little female representation. We want to ensure that all individuals who participate in any of our excursions feel safe and have a fulfilling experience. We believe that if we offer an excursion that is a female-gender targeted event we can increase the number of participants of female identified students in our excursions (and outdoor related activities) as well as offer a trip where they will feel empowered by being surrounded by their fellow peers. By providing opportunities like this one we can empower female identified individuals to engage in more outdoor activities as well as led by other female identified trip leaders.

We would like to offer a day of back country-skiing to female identified individuals we have it anticipated to Saturday February 7th, 2015.

We also have 7 other non-targeted excursions open to the entire student body.

**Fiscal Implication**

No fiscal implications

**Rationale**

This event provides female identified folks and other marginalized identities a learning opportunity through engaging student outdoor enthusiast.