



## **“A Resolution Emphasizing Campus Safety Regarding Advocacy Work”**

**Proposed Motion:** *Move to approve the “Resolution Emphasizing Campus Safety Regarding Advocacy Work”*

**Sponsor:** *VP for Activities, Giselle Alcantar Soto & VP for Diversity Cristina Rodriguez*

**Persons of Contact:** *Cristina Rodriguez, Giselle Alcantar Soto, Zachary Dove; Julianna Jackson; Isabel Moskowitz; McKenna Paddock; Emily Seynaeve; Alia Taqieddin*

**Guest Speaker:** *Cristina Rodriguez, Giselle Alcantar Soto, Zachary Dove; Julianna Jackson; Isabel Moskowitz; McKenna Paddock; Emily Seynaeve; Alia Taqieddin*

**Date:** 6/3/15

### **Attached Document**

“A Resolution Emphasizing Campus Safety Regarding Advocacy Work”

### **Background & Context**

June 2014 there was a resolution titled the International Divestment, Boycott & Sanctions Resolution that was passed with the intent to provide a “framework to talk about these issues and how decisions will play out, in a way that is best representative of ASWWU” (ASBoD Minutes, 6/5/14, IV, B). However, it became clear that the resolution was being interpreted in different ways and being used in ways it was not meant as stated in the BoD meeting on June 10, 2014: “Kohout wondered if this would prevent AS Clubs from boycotting individuals can do whatever they wish and clubs have a greater autonomy from the AS. Roberts said that the only body that can take a position on behalf of all Western Students is the AS Board. Roberts said that the Board could still boycott companies but only if there are specifically identified issues with that company and not because they are from a specific nation. Ellison asked if they would also not take positions in support of countries, they can see this being an issue if there was a conflict between two countries. Roberts thinks this is an interesting question, but she doesn’t know that it is the position of the student government to support a specific nation. Eckroth dittoed. Ellison said that this is a soft policy to not be involved in international issues.” (ASBoD Minutes, 6/10/14, V, C).

### **Summary of Proposal**

This February, AS President, Annika Wolters took action and decided to bring up a repeal, as the resolution was not doing what it was originally meant to do. After lengthy conversations, VP for Activities, Giselle Alcantar Soto proposed a Taskforce to look deeper into the issue and find a better solution that would maintain the intent of the original resolution while not prohibiting students’ advocacy work on campus. After four weeks and five meetings, the International Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Taskforce has worked in and outside of these meetings to create a new resolution made up of statements from the original resolution as well as new additions that emphasize the original intent of the resolution.

#### *Taskforce:*

*As stated before we meet a total of five times, in the period of four weeks and will meet once more (maybe twice, depending on need). The documents we discussed were brought mainly by the voting members of the*

*Taskforce, and conversation was mainly lead by them and facilitated by VP for Diversity (vice-chair) and VP for Activities (chair). Minutes were taken, and are accessible through requests only and approval of the taskforce's majority vote. The first 3-4 meetings were primarily discussion of documents, the rest were "work sessions" on the new resolution.*

*At the beginning there was an obvious divide in opinions among the committee members, but towards the end they were able to find common ground which is what the resolution is based on.*

### **Fiscal Impacts**

*There are not fiscal implications with this proposal.*

### **Rationale**

*In order for this resolution to be able to be in place, the old resolution will have to be repealed.*

*Passing this new resolution will allow us to keep working towards a safer environment when it comes to advocacy work in our campus by giving our students a voice and framework to be able to advocate for their issues while reinforcing our values towards inclusivity dialogue and safety and highlighting our commitment to take action through prohibiting and removing groups or individuals which intentionally threaten or intimidate.*