

SENATE BILL #1978

Title: Establishment of an Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee

Date: March 2, 2001

Authors: United Multicultural Council

Sponsors: Senators Partridge and Plemmons

1. WHEREAS, diversity needs to be incorporated into all Associated Students of
2. the University of Wyoming (ASUW) programs, services and activities; and
3. WHEREAS, addressing needs and concerns of underrepresented populations
4. is an obligation of the ASUW Student Senate; and
5. WHEREAS, the current ASUW Student Senate structure allows for
6. communication among some underrepresented populations through limited
7. members, but does not provide the opportunity for voting, sponsoring
8. legislation, or contributing their unique perspective during the formation of
9. ASUW policies and programs; and
10. WHEREAS, there is no opportunity for underrepresented populations such as
11. the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Association, Wyoming Access, and
12. part-time students to offer such communication or participation; and
13. WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 2, A of the ASUW Constitution states: “It
14. (ASUW Student Senate) shall have the authority to assume whatever
15. responsibilities it deems necessary to fulfill its obligations to the Students”;
16. and
17. WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 2, D of the ASUW Constitution states: “It
18. (ASUW Student Senate) shall have the authority to appoint and direct such

19. special committees to study or investigate any issue of concern to the Student
20. Senate in fulfilling its responsibilities for the University students except that
21. such committees shall serve only during the Senate term in which they are
22. appointed”; and

23. WHEREAS, the establishment of a diversity committee would support the
24. Mission Statement of the Division of Student Affairs, of which ASUW is a
25. part, to “Recruit and retain a student body with the size and diversity pre-
26. requisite to preparing our graduates for success in a multicultural, multi-
27. ethnic society.”; and

28. WHEREAS, historically, input of the United Multicultural Council,
29. International Student Association, and Non-Traditional Student Council is
30. solicited after an ASUW policy or program has been formulated or
31. implemented, and in the opinion of the authors creates a reactive
32. environment rather than a proactive environment; and

33. WHEREAS, United Multicultural Council should not be the sole organization
34. charged with addressing the issues of Classroom Climate and Campus
35. Climate.

36. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Student Senate of the Associated
37. Students of the University of Wyoming that an Ad-Hoc Diversity Committee
38. be created, as per the guidelines set forth in Addendum A, for the remainder
39. of the 2000-2001 Senate term; and


40. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the 2001-2002 ASUW Student
41. Senate re-appoint the said Ad-Hoc Committee on Diversity for the 2001-2002

42. Senate term.

Referred to: Student Relations Committee

Date of Passage: March 20, 2001

Signed:



(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on April 27, 2001, I do hereby sign my name hereto and
approve this Senate action.”



ASUW President

ADDENDUM A

United Multicultural Council

Diversity Committee Charge

The charge of the ad-hoc Diversity Committee is to explore the role that underrepresented populations play in the formation of policies, legislation, and effectuation of programs in the ASUW Student Government. The committee is to also help bring to fruition the efforts of the United Multicultural Council on the issues of Classroom Climate and Campus Climate for all UW students.

Undertakings

1. Explore possible alternatives to the current structure of the ASUW Student Senate, to be presented at the end of the 2000-2001 ASUW year, concerning the participation, representation, and communication with underrepresented populations.
2. Explore possible long-term devices to ensure the inclusion and realization of underrepresented populations in ASUW, including groups already represented in ex-officio positions, and those groups with no direct representation.
3. Work to ensure the inclusion of a statement about the classroom climate comfort level, and handling of student and/or instructor concerns and complaints on UW Syllabi by Fall of 2001.
4. Work to ensure the inclusion of a statement about the campus climate comfort level, and handling of student, faculty, and staff concerns and complaints in the Student Handbook, and the UW Web Page by Fall of 2001.

Committee Membership

Chairperson - United Multicultural Council Ex-Officio to the ASUW Student Senate

The following ten (10) members will enjoy equal rights on the ad-hoc Diversity Committee:

International Student Association representative
Non-Traditional Student Council representative
Wyoming Access representative
A part-time student
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Association representative
United Multicultural Council representative

ASUW Student Senate membership: Selected member of Academics and Technology
Selected member of Constitution Committee
Selected member of Student Issues Committee
Selected member of Student Relations Committee

Ex-Officio membership: President's Advisory Council; Minority and Women's
Advisory Council
Office of Student Life
Office of Minority Affairs
Student Support Services
Enrollment Management Diversity Team
Residence Hall Association
Student programmer from Student Activities Council