

**SENATE BILL #2211**

**Title:** Implementation of UMC Task Force Recommendation

**Date:** March 31, 2008

**Authors:** Executives Cowger and LeBeau; SAL's Henderson James, Magana, Mankowski, Neeff, and Spear

**Sponsors:** President Kiren, Senators K. Day, McBride, Murdock, Watt

1. WHEREAS, the Student Senate of the Associated Students of the University of
2. Wyoming (ASUW) created the United Multicultural Council (UMC) with Senate Bill
3. #1783 to "voice concerns of minority students and act as an advisory body to the ASUW
4. Senate"; and
5. WHEREAS, ASUW President David Kiren, with the advice and consent of the ASUW
6. Senate, created a task force for the UMC with the purpose of "developing an effective
7. UMC that will serve the students of the University of Wyoming; and
8. WHEREAS, the UMC Task Force met with various UW faculty, staff, and students to
9. gain a perspective of the current campus climate at UW; and
10. WHEREAS, the UMC Task Force traveled to three universities in Colorado to study
11. an assortment of student government programs and services promoting diversity; and
12. WHEREAS, the ASUW goals document for the academic year 2007-2008 calls for the
13. ASUW to "implement recommendations for the UMC task force."
14. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the student senate of the Associated Students of the
15. University of Wyoming (ASUW) that, effective immediately, the United Multicultural
16. Council (UMC) operate under the structure outlined in the UMC Constitution located in
17. Addendum A.

**Referred to:** Constitution Committee

Date of Passage: April 15, 2008 Signed:

Zah Carver  
(ASUW Chairperson)

UNANIMOUS

"Being enacted on April 21, 2008, I do hereby sign my name hereto and

approve this Senate action."

David F. K.  
ASUW President

## United Multicultural Council Constitution

### I) Mission Statement and Definitions

#### a. Mission Statement

- i. The purpose of the United Multicultural Council is to improve the campus climate through community education, progressive action and appropriate reactions to diversity and social justice issues as they arise, and increased communication in the promotion of respect for diversity and social justice at the University of Wyoming.

#### b. Definitions

- i. Diversity: differences in the human experience, related to differing backgrounds, cultures, and histories.
- ii. Social justice: working towards a true equilibrium of advantages and disadvantages experienced by all facets of society.
- iii. Campus climate: the atmosphere at the university surrounding all issues of diversity, including experiences in the classroom, as well as other aspects of life on campus.

### II) Physical Structure of the UMC

#### a. Elected Positions

- i. All elected positions will be voted on during the second meeting in April. Any nominations must be put forth by an existing member of the council and must receive a majority vote by the council to be elected.
  1. Chairperson—serves to run meetings and serves as the primary Ex-Officio to ASUW senate meetings.
  2. Secretary—serves to record minutes of every meeting and records attendance, as well as provides a speaking list for the chairperson.
  3. Treasurer—serves to give reports of funds during every meeting. Is also responsible for the UMC account, to be created through the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW), serves on the ASUW RSO Funding Board, and serves as chair of the Jason Thompson Diversity Awards Committee.
  4. Public Relations—this person is in charge of advertising, the calendar in the Multicultural Resource Center, upkeep of the website, ensuring information regarding UMC is included in the MA newsletter, and is in charge of the email lists. Additionally, this person will spearhead information campaigns throughout the year.

#### b. Council Membership

##### i. Council Structure

1. The following groups will be awarded permanent seats on the UMC.
  - a. Asian American Pacific Islander Student Association, Association of Black Student Leaders, American Indian Studies Alliance, Chinese Students and Scholars Association, Hillel, International Student Association, Keepers of the Fire, Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan, Minority Engineering Program, Minority Law Student Association, Milaap, Muslim Student Association, Non-Traditional Student Council, Sigma Lambda Gamma, Spectrum, Student Athlete Advisory Council, Turkish Student Association, Vietnamese and Friends Association, Wyoming African Student Association, Women's Action Network.
  - b. Each permanent seat will provide a brief report at the beginning of each meeting regarding their organization.
  - c. The ASUW will have an ex-officio (non-voting) seat on the UMC who will provide necessary parliamentary procedure knowledge to the UMC.
  - d. Committees will be convened and dissolved as necessary.
  - e. The UMC will be advised by a staff advisor and a faculty member, to be appointed by the UMC officers with the advice of the ASUW advisor.

2. Meetings

- a. The UMC will meet twice a month.
- ii. At any time during the year, an individual, group, or an RSO may fill out an application to apply for a seat on the UMC.
  1. After completion of this form, the existing council will vote on the sincere interest in advancing diversity, multiculturalism, and social justice to add a seat to the council, represented by the person, group or RSO. This vote must pass by a two-thirds majority of the existing council. If a vote to add a chair does not pass, the chairperson must inform the interested party of the council's decision and reasoning.
  2. Once a new council chair has been approved, they are immediately treated as an existing chair, and will serve as such until the next academic year.

- iii. If an existing council member is absent for 3 or more consecutive meetings and/or 10 total meetings within a year, a vote to revoke membership may be passed. If the vote is passed with a two-thirds majority, a representative of the council seat will be notified in writing. Council membership will be maintained for two meetings following the vote before membership will be fully revoked.
  1. If a representative for the seat in question is present for either of the following two meetings after the vote, the council seat is returned to original status, and the motion to remove the chair is vetoed.

### III) Agenda of the UMC

- a. The following issues are at the forefront of the UMC's mission and should serve to have priority over other issues presented to the council.
  - i. In addition to the UMC Treasurer, UMC will provide at least three members to serve on the ASUW RSO Funding Board.
  - ii. Organizing events and programming that promote diversity, social justice awareness, dialogue and action.
  - iii. Forming a committee to grant the Jason Thompson Diversity Awards to undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff and community members who have passion and action for the advancement of diversity and social justice on campus. This involves organizing an annual diversity/social justice banquet that recognizes members of the community for their commitment to diversity and social justice.
  - iv. Coordinating with ASUW to organize a session during the ASUW retreat, which will address diversity and social justice issues.
  - v. Facilitation of an information campaign annually or bi-annually to promote awareness of social justice and to issue a challenge to the community. This campaign will be funded directly through the UMC's permanent budget.
    1. This funding will go towards advertisement, posters and flyers.
  - vi. Organizing a calendar of diversity and social justice events throughout the year and advertising it.
  - vii. Working with the Social Justice Resource Center and the President's Advisory Council on Minority and Women's Affairs (PACMWA) to continue research and stay aware of issues surrounding diversity and social justice on campus.
  - viii. UMC members will work individually with students that are interested in running for any ASUW or student leadership position to provide advice

and mentoring. UMC will also inform students of any ASUW positions that become available throughout the year.

- ix. Maintenance of various email lists that will allow students to disseminate information to intended groups.
- x. The UMC will form and oversee a Freshman Action Council that will bring together interested individuals in the freshman class from groups, such as, but not limited to, First Year Institute, Freshman Senate, and Multicultural Student Leadership Initiative. The goal is to foster a passion for diversity and social justice in freshman students at UW.

#### IV) Amendments to the Constitution

- a. Any amendments to the constitution can be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the existing council.