

SENATE BILL #2548



TITLE: Creation of a New ASUW Standing Committee on Diversity

DATE INTRODUCED: March 28, 2017

AUTHOR: Senator Strock

SPONSORS: Vice President Wolfgang; Senators Drake, Julian, Lattimer, and Thomson-Lichty; Executive Nesbitt; United Multicultural Council

1. WHEREAS, it is the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Student Government to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible
3. through accurate representation and responsible, effective leadership; and,
4. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming (UW) has a duty to provide a safe, welcoming, and
5. inclusive environment to all students, staff, faculty, and visitors of UW; and,
6. WHEREAS, the ASUW Student Government plays an integral part of helping UW fulfill this
7. duty; and,
8. WHEREAS, per the United States Department of Education, 22% of the total number of
9. students at UW ethnically identify as non-white; and,
10. WHEREAS, many students at UW identify as LGBTQIAA+ or have a related identity; and,
11. WHEREAS, many more students at UW have some identity that has been ascribed
12. “minority” status based on gender, religion, national origin, and/or ability, amongst
13. others; and,
14. WHEREAS, these communities have historically been discriminated against and/or faced
15. political underrepresentation; and,
16. WHEREAS, it is important to include the voices and perspectives of these communities
17. when making policy decisions, as the ASUW Student Government does; and,
18. WHEREAS, these communities face unique challenges and issues daily that the rest of the

19. UW student body does not face regularly; and,
20. WHEREAS, Senate Resolution #2532 reaffirmed the ASUW Student Government's support
21. for diversity and inclusivity; and,
22. WHEREAS, it is paramount to follow through on expressed support of diversity and
23. inclusivity with direct action.
24. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
25. (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW Underrepresented Communities, Activism,
26. and Diversity Committee be established as a permanent standing committee; and
27. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW By-Laws be amended to reflect the
28. changes in Addendum A; and,
29. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that upon passage this bill will go into effect at the
30. beginning of the 105th Administration of ASUW.

Referred to: Constitution, SOP

Date of Passage: _____ **Signed:** _____

(ASUW Chairperson)

"Being enacted on _____ **, I do hereby sign my name hereto and**

approve this Senate action." _____

ASUW President

ADDENDUM A

THE BY-LAWS ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Article II Legislative Branch

Section 10. Senate Committees:

A. In order to provide continuity in ASUW activities and business along with providing a mechanism for timely participation by the ASUW in University processes, the following permanent ASUW Senate committees are established:

x. The ASUW Underrepresented Communities, Activism, and Diversity Committee:

- a. Purpose. The Committee shall serve as an intermediary between the ASUW Student Senate and underrepresented communities in terms of outreach and representation throughout the policy process. The Committee shall also serve as a forum for underrepresented student communities to bring issues before the ASUW Student Senate.
- b. Powers. The Committee shall consider and render recommendations and propose policy to the Senate on all matters related to diversity and the representation of historically underrepresented student communities. The Committee shall also work in conjunction with other elements of the ASUW Student Government to coordinate and initiate outreach to underrepresented student communities on matters of policy before the ASUW Student Government. The Committee shall be empowered to investigate issues related to diversity that are brought before the Committee or the ASUW Student Government. The Committee shall work with the Elections Commission to increase awareness and turnout of underrepresented communities in ASUW Student government elections as well as helping to recruit candidates for ASUW Student Government elections from these communities. The Committee shall work with ASUW Programs and Services, Recognized Student Organizations, and other elements of the ASUW Student Government to initiate and involve the ASUW Student Government in diversity related initiatives and activism on campus and help foster a more inclusive campus in general.

- c. Composition. The Committee shall consist of a minimum of five (4) ASUW Senators, one (1) of whom shall serve as chairperson and five (5) ASUW Students-at-Large, with one (1) being a Freshman Senator, two (2) being appointed by the United Multicultural Council with approval by the ASUW Vice President, and (1) being appointed by International Student Association with approval by the ASUW Vice President. The ASUW Vice President shall appoint one (1) Executive Assistant to serve as an ex-officio on the committee
- B. Each standing committee shall establish regular meeting times. The regular meeting time and place shall be permanently posted in the ASUW Senate Office and on the ASUW website during the academic year.
- C. Each ASUW Standing Committee shall be responsible for any and all outreach it deems necessary within its jurisdiction.