

Adopted Via Unanimous Consent



**SENATE RESOLUTION #2972**

**TITLE: MATTHEW SHEPARD BENCH MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING**

**DATE INTRODUCED: 4/02/2024**

**AUTHOR: Senator Hennigar**


**SPONSORS: President Murfitt; Director of Justice and Equity Medina; Senator(s) Gomelsky, Gundling, Hulen, Keasling, Knull, Langford, Moore, and Schliebe; First-Year Senator Hargett**

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University is to represent our
2. fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, the Matthew Shepard bench outside of the Arts and Science building is a
4. beautiful monument to Matthew Shepard and the tragic way he lost his life as well as
5. providing the LGBTQIA+ community and allies across the state the chance to pay their
6. respects to his life; and,
7. WHEREAS, currently people drop off historic mementos on the bench to honor him but
8. often times these items are left out of the bench for years; and,
9. WHEREAS, implementing a monitoring system for his bench in order to ensure the
10. items could be saved and recorded in order to show the history of him and the bench
11. would be a good way to protect the items from the weather and to keep the bench from
12. being overloaded; and,
13. WHEREAS, the Arts and Science Building could implement a system to check the
14. bench every month and determine items that should be historically logged and saved
15. with the American Heritages Center archives system in order to remember the items that
16. have been placed here; and,
17. WHEREAS, Addendum A shows an image showing an example of items being placed
18. on the bench to honor Matthew Shepard; and,
19. WHEREAS, Addendum B shows the bench currently and how the weather tends to
20. impact it; and,
21. WHEREAS, this will help to prevent these items from being damaged in the weather.
22. THEREFORE, be it hereby resolved that the ASUW Student Government encourages
23. the Arts and Science College to create a system to monitor the bench and work to save

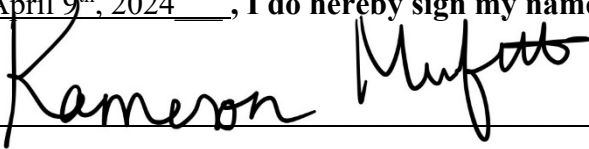
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- 24. the items that are put on it; and,
- 25. THEREFORE be it further resolved that this resolution should go into effect as soon as it
- 26. passes; and,
- 27. THEREFORE, be it even further resolved that upon its passage a copy of this resolution
- 28. be sent to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, President Seidel, the Board of
- 29. Trustees, Multicultural Affairs, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Dean
- 30. of Students, Faculty Senate, and any other faculty/staff member that would have cause to
- 31. see this resolution.

Referred to: ADP and HOPE

Date of Passage: April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Signed:   
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, I do hereby sign my name hereto and approve this

Senate action.”   
ASUW President

**Addendum A**

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**Addendum B**

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