



SENATE RESOLUTION #2635

TITLE: ASUW Support of Transgender, Non-binary, & Otherwise Gender Non-Conforming Students

DATE INTRODUCED: November 6, 2018

AUTHOR: Senator Pierson; Director of Diversity McVicker; SAL Titus

SPONSORS: Senators Garcia and Marchese; Chief of Staff Harris, Director of Governmental and Community Affairs Houghton; University of Wyoming Spectrum, United Multicultural Council

1. WHEREAS, the mission and responsibility of the Associated Students of the University of
2. Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government is to serve our students in the best manner possible
3. through accurate representation, professional interaction with campus programs and
4. organizations, and responsible, effective, leadership; and,
5. WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 5.01 of the ASUW Student Government By-Laws states that
6. ASUW seeks to, “promote the interests and wellbeing of all students,” regardless of sex,
7. sexual orientation, political belief, or gender identity and to, “respect the integrity, dignity
8. and worth of individual students and will recognize and acknowledge the differences in each.
9. As well as to, “be sensitive and protective of the liberties and respect to which each
10. individual student is entitled” and to, “refrain from and discourage behaviors that threaten
11. these ideals, freedom, and civility that every individual deserves”; and,
12. WHEREAS, transgender people, and especially transgender people of color, are at a higher
13. risk of violence and suicide than the cisgender population with major risk factors including
14. discrimination and ill treatment within healthcare systems as outlined in Addendum A; and,
15. WHEREAS, gender non-conforming students at the University of Wyoming reported higher
16. instances of sexual assault, attempted or completed rape, sexual harassment, and intimate
17. partner and dating violence as outlined in Addendum B; and,

18. WHEREAS, the University of the Wyoming, as the only public four-year institution of the
19. state, should ensure equal opportunity to all students to flourish academically, socially,
20. culturally, and professionally; and,
21. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
22. (ASUW) Student Government that we, as a body of elected and appointed student leaders
23. supporting faculty advisors, ex-officios, etc. will fulfill our mission and uphold the Code of
24. Ethics as previously described; and,
25. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the ASUW Student Government acknowledges that
26. the data from Addendum B indicates shortcomings in the policies of the University of
27. Wyoming to protect transgender and gender non-conforming students; and,
28. THEREFORE, be it further resolved the ASUW Student Government will continue to uphold
29. its mission and Code of Ethics by issuing this statement of support; and,
30. THEREFORE, be it further resolved the ASUW Student Government encourages the
31. University of Wyoming President Nichols and her administration and other governing
32. University faculty members, bodies, etc. to issue a similar statement of support for
33. transgender, non-binary, and otherwise gender non-conforming students.

Referred to: Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy

Date of Passage: 11/13/18 Signed: Alexander Mulhall
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on 11/16/18, I do hereby sign my name hereto and
approve this Senate action.” Seth Jones

ASUW President

Addendum A

Discrimination can be an everyday experience for many transgender people and can affect nearly every area of life. The [National Transgender Discrimination Survey](#) showed that 26% of trans people lost a job due to bias, 50% were harassed on the job, 20% were evicted or denied housing, and 78% of trans students were harassed or assaulted. And the transphobia that drives the discrimination is exacerbated when the trans person is a person of color and also faces compounding racism. Trans people of color face higher rates of discrimination.



Clear non-discrimination laws covering gender identity and expression are an important part of the solution because they can help stop the discrimination before it happens. Clear laws often cause businesses to have policies against discrimination and train employees to follow those policies. At this point, much protection can also be found under state and federal sex discrimination law as well. Learn more in our [Know Your Rights Center](#).

However, laws on the books don't always translate into actual fair treatment. Another important step for governments to take is to issue guidance or rules about what the law means, such as by stating that transgender people have the right to use sex-specific facilities that match who they are.

If you are working to pass a state or local non-discrimination law or policy, NCTE may be able to help.

(<https://transequality.org/issues/non-discrimination-laws>)

Addendum B

University of Wyoming Campus Climate Survey Results – 2018

Table 2. Percentage of students reporting victimization of sexual assault during their time at UW.

	Overall	Male	Female	GNC
Victim of at least one instance of unwanted sexual touching, penetration, or attempted penetration	27.1%	12.8%	34.0%	50.0%
Victim of at least one instance of completed or attempted oral, vaginal, or anal rape (excluding nonconsensual touching)	21.0%	8.9%	26.8%	46.2%
Victim of at least one instance of completed oral, vaginal, or anal rape (excluding nonconsensual sexual touching and attempted, but not completed, rape)	15.0%	6.0%	19.4%	30.8%

Note: GNC = gender non-conforming.

Table 4. Percentage of UW students reporting victimization of sexual assault resulting from force, threat of force, or incapacitation.

	Overall	Male	Female	GNC
Victim of at least one instance of unwanted sexual touching, penetration, or attempted penetration	20.5%	8.7%	26.3%	38.5%
Victim of at least one instance of completed or attempted oral, vaginal, or anal rape (excluding nonconsensual touching)	16.2%	6.1%	21.2%	30.8%
Victim of at least one instance of completed oral, vaginal, or anal rape (excluding nonconsensual sexual touching and attempted, but not completed, rape)	11.8%	3.7%	15.8%	19.2%

Note: GNC = gender non-conforming.

Table 8. Percentage of students reporting offensive behaviors or sexual harassment by other students.

	Overall	Male	Female	GNC
Any offensive behavior or sexual harassment	58.1%	44.5%	64.6%	85.2%
Sexist comments and behavior	50.7%	37.9%	56.8%	85.2%
Crude or lewd comments and behavior	41.4%	29.9%	46.9%	63.0%
Unwanted sexual attention	24.6%	16.5%	28.1%	63.0%
Sexual harassment via electronic communication	21.1%	9.4%	26.9%	37.0%

Note: GNC = gender non-conforming.

Table 9. Percentage of students reporting offensive behaviors or sexual harassment by faculty/staff.

	Overall	Male	Female	GNC
Any offensive behavior or sexual harassment	35.3%	31.2%	36.6%	69.0%
Sexist comments and behavior	32.4%	27.4%	34.3%	69.0%
Crude or lewd comments and behavior	14.5%	11.3%	15.6%	37.9%
Unwanted sexual attention	5.9%	4.3%	6.5%	13.8%
Sexual coercion	2.9%	2.2%	3.2%	6.9%

Note: GNC = gender non-conforming.