



SENATE BILL #3015

TITLE: Dissolution of the United Multicultural Council Program from ASUW

DATE INTRODUCED: 11/1/24

AUTHOR: President Murfitt

SPONSORS: Chief of Staff Hennigar, Director Medina, Senators Davies, Morales, Relaford,
Verdeyen, Program and Institutional Development
Committee, United Multicultural Council

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, the United Multicultural Council (UMC), on October 21st 2024, received
4. confirmation by email of becoming a level II student organization outside of ASUW's
5. scope to be able to function as a protected class under the University of Wyoming Equal
6. Opportunity and Prohibited Efforts Statement (as seen in addendum A) as recommended
7. by Vice President of Student Affairs Chestnut and Vice President of General Council
8. Evans; and,
9. WHEREAS, meetings between UMC and ASUW have taken place to discuss options for
10. staying as a program or moving to a student organization, leading to their decision of
11. moving to a student organization; and,
12. WHEREAS, despite this dissolution, ASUW recognizes the benefits that UMC provides
13. to students at UW, and is committed to working with them to find future productive
14. ways to benefit students; and,
15. WHEREAS, UMC will maintain its current position on the ASUW Senate as an ex-

16. officio.

17. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of

18. Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government the United Multicultural Council be dissolved

19. as a program of ASUW; and,


20. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW By-Laws be amended to reflect the

21. changes outlined in Addendum B; and,

22. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that these changes take effect immediately upon

23. passage of this bill.

Referred to: PID SWAC, STEERING SOFB

Date of Passage: November 12th 2024 Signed: 
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on November 12th 2024, I do hereby sign my name
hereto and approve this

Senate action.” 

ASUW President

Addendum A



University of Wyoming Board of Trustees Action

Subject: Equal Opportunity and Prohibited Efforts Statement

Effective Date: May 10, 2024

I. BACKGROUND

During the 2024 Wyoming Legislative budget session, lawmakers adopted Footnote 12 to section 0.67 HB0001 House Enrolled Act 50, prohibiting funds from this appropriation to be expended on the office of diversity, equity, and inclusion at the University of Wyoming and any diversity, equity, or inclusion programs, activities, or functions. On March 22, 2024, the Governor line-item vetoed the “programs, activities, or functions” portion of the footnote. Following the implementation of this legislation, the President created a working group with members from faculty senate, staff senate, ASUW, deans, and administrators to provide suggestions on which programs, activities, and functions should be continued, modified, or discontinued and how essential student success and institutional excellence programs, activities, and functions could be organized and funded within the University to make them most effective.

In its Final Report to the President, the working group provided a recommended definition of diversity, equity, and inclusion. At the May 2024 University of Wyoming Board of Trustees Meeting, the Board unanimously concurred with and supported the following plan as outlined by the President, including the definition of diversity, equity, and inclusion proposed by the working group:

- A. Close the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and reassign staff.
- B. Create a Vice Provost for Faculty, Staff, and Student Access, Opportunity, and Wellbeing.
- C. Cease any requirement for prospective employees to submit statements regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion during the hiring process.
- D. Cease the requirement for UW employees to be evaluated on components of diversity, equity and inclusion.
- E. Review key practices, as described on pages 13-16 of the DEI Review Working Group report, to ensure they promote merit and do not promote preferential treatment.

II. PURPOSE AND ACTION

The University of Wyoming recognizes that a fair and open academic environment is essential to carry out its mission to promote education, research, innovation, engagement, and service. The University is continually striving to cultivate a diverse academic community through the recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff. The University is committed to programs, activities, and functions sponsored by the University that further the University's mission.¹ Prohibited efforts include advocating, promoting, or funding a program, activity, or function that:

- A.** Advantages or disadvantages, or attempts to advantage or disadvantage an individual or group on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, gender identity, or sexual orientation, to equalize or increase outcomes, participation or representation as compared to other individuals or groups; or
- B.** Promotes the position that the action of a group or an individual is inherently, unconsciously, or implicitly biased, privileged or inherently superior or inferior on the basis of color, sex, national origin, gender identity, or sexual orientation.
- C.** Excluded from the efforts defined above are the following:
 - 1.** Requirements necessary for athletic and accreditation compliance;
 - 2.** Academic freedom, including research, teaching, and learning;
 - 3.** Training students and employees on the non-discrimination requirements of state and federal law;
 - 4.** Requirements necessary to establish or maintain eligibility for or compliance with any State or federal programs or laws, including equal opportunity;
 - 5.** Requirements for access programs for military veterans, Pell Grant recipients, first generation college students, nontraditional students, transfer students, low-income students, or students with disabilities;
 - 6.** Private scholarships administered by an institution other than UW (not including those matched with state-appropriated dollars);
 - 7.** Student fees to support student-led organizations and their use of faculty and staff sponsors and University facilities;
 - 8.** Constitutionally protected speech or actions; and

¹ This action does not apply to external parties unaffiliated with the University who use University facilities pursuant to UW Regulation 6-4 (Use of University Buildings, Grounds, and Services).

9. Expenditure of funds used for de minimus administrative activities not unique to any one program or activity (e.g., utilities, facilities use, etc.)

Addendum B

Article 2. Legislative Branch

Section 2.02 The ASUW Senate

10. Standing Committees

D. The ASUW Program and Institutional Development Committee

- a. Composition: The Committee shall consist of a minimum of six senators of the ASUW, one (1) of whom shall serve as chairperson, one (1) being a First-Year Senator after their committee assignments, and a unique student representative of each ASUW program or service shall have the opportunity to serve as a voting member. The committee shall also elect a secretary, who will take attendance and take notes for the chair. All these program and service representatives are subject to the final approval of the ASUW Vice President. All program and service representatives will have the right to vote in this Committee. The ASUW Vice President shall appoint at least one (1) Executive to serve as an ex-officio on the committee. The program and service representatives maybe, but are not limited to the following:
 - ~~i. United Multicultural Council~~
 - ii. First-Year Senate
 - iii. Students' Legal Services
 - iv. Non-Traditional Student Council

11. Special Committees

G. James C. Hurst Scholarship Committee

- a) Purpose: the James C. Hurst Scholarship is for students that have or are participating in activities that enhance multicultural experiences at UW; or have marginalized identities and have shown a commitment to issues surrounding diversity and inclusion.
- b) Powers: The Committee will meet during the spring semester and will review applications filled out by students applying. The Committee will then interview applicants and decide awardees for scholarships. Upon choosing awardees, information for the scholarship recipients must be submitted to the UW Financial Aid Office.
- c) Composition: the James C. Hurst Scholarship will be chaired by an appropriate executive appointed by the ASUW President and shall be composed of the Chair of the ASUW Safety, Wellness, and Advocacy Committee, ~~a designee from Multicultural Affairs~~, the ASUW President (or designee, an ASUW executive (DoD), one (1) ASUW Senator, and the ASUW Advisor

Article 7. Programs and Services

Section 7.01 Programs and Services

1. All services and programs funded by the ASUW shall be placed in one (1), and only one (1), of the following categories:

- A. High Interaction Governance Groups.

- a. These groups experience a high degree of interaction with students who come before them to petition for support of various student needs and concerns. These include:

- i. ASUW Senate
 - ii. All Traditionally Sponsored ASUW Programming
 - iii. ASUW Budget and Planning Committee
 - iv. First-Year Senate (business meetings only)
 - v. The Tuition Allocation and Student Fee Review Committee
 - vi. Non-Traditional Student Council (business meetings only)
 - vii. ASUW Student Organization Funding Board
 - ~~viii. United Multicultural Council (business meetings only)~~

- C. Other Programs and Services

- a. These groups operate either in an advisory capacity to ASUW, have little need for consistence in meeting times and locations, or have available meeting space which they should be encouraged to utilize. These include:
 - i. A.L. Lupton Financial Literacy Program
 - ii. Associated Students Technical Services (ASTEC)
 - iii. First-Year Senate
 - iv. Honorary Cowboy
 - v. Non-Traditional Student Council
 - vi. Student Legal Services
 - ~~vii. United Multicultural Council~~

Section 7.02 Scheduling

1. Priority Scheduling

- A. Because of the highly interactive nature of High Interaction Governance Groups and Strategic Partnerships, these groups require consistent public visibility, especially of their meetings times and locations. Therefore, the following groups will be considered to have first priority when the ASUW schedules meeting times and locations with the Union during the first week of priority scheduling. These include in specific order:

- a. ASUW Senate
 - All Traditionally Sponsored ASUW Programming
 - i. First-Year Senate (business meetings only)
 - ~~ii. United Multicultural Council (business meetings only)~~

- b. ASUW Student Organization Funding Board
- c. Mandatory Student Fee Committee

Section 7.03 Community Programs

2. Community based programs are student-led organizations that exist to provide space and opportunities for specific groups on campus. Current ASUW community-based programs are listed below.

A. Community

- a. Non-Traditional Student Council
- ~~b. United Multicultural Council~~
- c. First Year Senate

8. ASUW community-based programs that elect co-chairs and leadership positions must have their chosen or elected candidates brought forth before the Programs and Intuitional Development committee. These programs **currently** consist of:

A. Nontraditional Student Council

~~B. United Multicultural Council~~