
Resolution in Support of the College Diversity Requirement for the University of California, Los Angeles

WHEREAS, The University of California, Los Angeles is one of two UC campuses without a requirement for the examination of diversity despite over thirty years of support and advocacy efforts by students, faculty and the UCLA community for the requirement;

WHEREAS, Undergraduate Students Association Council passed the resolution to improve intergroup understanding and dynamics on the UCLA Campus in 2011¹;

WHEREAS, Chancellor Gene D. Block has explicitly stated that "Diversity is a core value of UCLA. It enables us to provide the kind of broad, enriching educational experience for which the university has long been known."²;

WHEREAS, A diversity-related course requirement for UCLA College undergraduates is an important component of our commitment to expose students to beliefs and backgrounds other than their own³;

WHEREAS, The Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost, Scott L. Waugh and Chancellor Gene D. Block have asked the Office of Academic Planning and Budget to review the section of the Implementation Committee report on resource requirements and have assured that they are "fully committed to supporting new costs associated with the Diversity Requirement."⁴;

WHEREAS, In 2012 the proposal for a Diversity Requirement was voted down despite widespread support from students;

WHEREAS, That with overwhelming student, faculty and administration support, the time is now for this university to accept this proposal;

WHEREAS, With a total of 659 votes - 332 votes in favor, 303 opposed and 24 blank - the UCLA College of Letters and Science faculty approved the proposal for a diversity requirement; and

WHEREAS, On November 20, 2014, the Academic Senate's Legislative Assembly voted to approve a College of Letters & Science Regulation Change for the Creation of a Diversity Requirement with a 85-18 vote⁵.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association condemns the petition signed by 59 UCLA faculty petition requesting that the November 20th Legislative Assembly vote on the adoption of an undergraduate College of Letters and Science Diversity Requirement be submitted to the entire Academic Senate membership by an electronic online ballot, allowing faculty members outside of the College of Letters and Science to vote on the proposal that does not fall in their jurisdiction;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association strongly urges the UCLA Academic Senate to uphold the passage of the UCLA College of Letters and Science by the UCLA College of Letters and Science Faculty in October 2014 and by the November 20th Legislative Assembly; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors of the University of California Student Association will continue to support the efforts of the implementation of the UCLA College of Letters and Science Diversity Requirement that will take effect for incoming freshmen students in fall 2015 and incoming transfer students in fall 2017.

¹ https://www.usac.ucla.edu/documents/resolutions/resolution_dynamics.pdf

² <https://diversity.ucla.edu/chancellors-message>

³ <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/ucla-college-faculty-approves-diversity-requirement>

⁴ https://ccle.ucla.edu/pluginfile.php/694639/mod_resource/content/7/140910_Diversity%20Requirement%20Implementation.pdf

⁵ <http://dailybruin.com/2014/11/20/ucla-academic-senate-approves-diversity-related-course-requirement/>