

ACADEMIC SENATE

Resolution 15/16-02

Procedure:

1. A motion should be typed or hand-printed.
2. A motion should first be offered to the Executive Board for review and advice on editing and parliamentary implication.
3. If changes are necessary, the motion should be recopied on another form. Amendments may be indicated in the margin or on the reverse of this form.

Resolution Submitting Proposal on Diversity Initiatives to Provost's Office

WHEREAS, The University of Southern California serves as a model institution for addressing the complex concepts of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Its faculty conduct ground breaking research in understanding the dynamics and impact of these factors, nationally and globally. Its educational programs develop leaders working for change in this area across many social environments. It is a leader in its role as a highly selective research university, with its record of successful recruitment and support of first-generation, transfer, and international students, and has a very diverse undergraduate student body. It partners with the community with funding and programs that help to address these issues in its own neighborhood, which is itself a culturally and economically diverse community, and

WHEREAS, The USC Provost is committed to this issue, making Access and Opportunity globally, as well as for all of our students, staff, and faculty, one of the pillars of USC's new strategic plan, and

WHEREAS, Despite USC's leadership on this issue in various parts of the university, there is not yet a centralized plan for making Access and Opportunity a system-wide reality for those who live and work on campus, nor is there yet a plan for communicating to the world outside USC its commitment to these goals, from its recruitment and campus climate practices, to its research or initiatives to make national and global impact on Access and Opportunity.

Therefore, Be it RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate endorses the proposal submitted by the Senate Campus Climate Committee, outlining the latest thinking on Access and Opportunity in higher education, as well as a review of the practices of our peer institutions, along with a set of recommendations to our Provost on improving Access and Opportunity on our own campus. The Senate recognizes this proposal is a starting point that will lay the foundation for more innovative approaches in the coming years, but believes these steps are necessary to put us on the path of being a leader in this area.

Be it further RESOLVED that the Senate is aware of resolutions passed by both the undergraduate student government and the graduate student government that also address campus climate, and is supportive of the students commitment and efforts around this issue.

Resolution Number: 15/16-02

Date: October 14, 2015

Motion by: Executive Board

(No second required when moved by committee)

Presented at the Senate meeting on October 21, 2015

Action taken: Resolution Passed.