



NDSA-06-2324

A Resolution in Support of the Continuation of Departments of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Including Other Departments of Similar Purposes

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) represents the voice of North Dakota’s 45,000 public college and university students; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDSA is to represent all students enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and advocate on issues of higher education in support of access, affordability, quality, and the student experience; and,

WHEREAS, the NDSA has previously supported efforts to promote “diversity, equity, and inclusion within both the NDSA and NDUS”¹; and,

WHEREAS, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Departments are campus resources that help meet individuals’ needs “regarding financial aid, housing, academic interests, and personal well-being”²; and,

WHEREAS, according to NDUS Diversity Council Members, the council is preparing for outcomes that are reportedly being drafted by legislators that would be similar to what has appeared in other states such Florida, South Dakota, and Texas. Legislators throughout the state of North Dakota are planning to or have written legislation that would greatly affect the positive impacts available from DEI departments and the universities they are present³; and,

WHEREAS, the presence of DEI departments on NDUS campuses are crucial in providing education and opportunities to foster multiculturalism along with educating students of differences in institutional populations regardless of race, gender, and sexuality while also taking special care to reach out to minoritized groups within student populations; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, since the NDSA supports the promotion of DEI and its supporting programs in the NDUS, it is imperative that the organization also supports Departments of DEI along with departments that serve similar purposes throughout the NDUS; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that diversity on campus is celebrated within the NDUS and several institutions’ mission statements include messaging regarding diversity; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that these programs provided by these departments are essential for retention and a source of belonging at NDUS campuses.

*Approved by the North Dakota Student Association General Assembly
Saturday, February 10th, 2024*

¹ NDSA-04-2324

² NDSU, Multicultural Programs; <https://www.ndsu.edu/multicultural/>

³NDUS Diversity Council; <https://ndus.edu/ndus-councils/>