



UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENT
ASSOCIATION

Resolution in Support of National Coming Out Week and a Call for a Safer and More Inclusive University

WHEREAS, The Queer Community, including Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Genderqueer individuals, contributes to the diversity of the University of California system as a whole and comprises a significant portion of the student body,

WHEREAS, the Undergraduate Students Association Council works to fairly represent student interests, needs, and welfare, [1]

WHEREAS, Queer students face an exceptional amount of hardship, simply due to their gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation,

WHEREAS, the University of California, Los Angeles believes that diversity is critical to maintaining excellence in all of our endeavors, [2]

WHEREAS, the University of California, Los Angeles will not tolerate acts of discrimination, harassment, profiling or other harm to individuals on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, among other personal characteristics, [3]

WHEREAS, such acts are in violation of UCLA's Principles of Community and subject to sanctions according to campus policies governing the conduct of students, staff and faculty, [4]

WHEREAS, the University of California, Los Angeles actively supports promoting an inclusive climate on campus, in which all individuals feel welcomed and respected, [5]

WHEREAS, recent events, which include the pattern of suicides of gay-identified youth across the nation, have called attention to the need for safety and inclusion of LGBT youth in schools across the nation,

WHEREAS, this week marks the 22nd anniversary of National Coming Out Week (NCOW), a week that commemorates and celebrates the lives and identities of queer individuals across the nation,

WHEREAS, the recent tragedies coupled with the celebration of National Coming Out Week, recognize the progress the queer community has made, while also highlighting the need for further progress/action,

WHEREAS, a safe and inclusive environment is necessary for any individual's personal well-being, academic success and retention, and development,

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC strongly supports and stands firmly in solidarity with the Queer community of UCLA.

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC acknowledges the work of students and student groups who have continually advocated around issues of Queer rights and identity.

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC urges the University administration to continue and support integral services that provide and create safe spaces, such as the LGBT Campus Resource Center.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USAC will continue to advocate on behalf of the queer community through initiatives and programs that will create a safer and more inclusive environment such as Hate Crimes Awareness, Gender-Neutral Facilities, the Count Me In Too Campaign, and "OTHER COUNCIL INITIATIVES".

THEREFORE LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the USAC encourages the student body to be conscious of unintended effects that their words and actions may have on others, and to become active allies of marginalized communities.

Sponsors:

Mikael Gatsby Miller: General Representative 3

Matthew Spring: General Representative 1

John Christian "JC" De Vera: Facilities Commissioner

Stephanie Lucas: Internal Vice President

Rustom Z Birdie: Financial Supports Commissioner

Emily Resnick: General Representative 2

[1] USAC Constitution, pg. 1

[2] UCLA Diversity statement, pg. 1

[3] UCLA Diversity statement, pg. 1

[4] UCLA Diversity statement, pg. 1

[5] UCLA Diversity Plan, pg. 2