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Spring 2009

### SB33-08/09: Institutionalization of the Day of Dialogue

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1                                   **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**  
2                                   **Resolution regarding Institutionalization of the Day of Dialogue**  
3   **February 2, 2009**  
4   **SB33-08/09**  
5                                   **Authored by: Adina Kaliyeva, ASUM Senator**  
6

7   Whereas, The Montana Board of Regents have made diversity a key component in the curriculum of institutors  
8   of Higher Education;

9  
10   Whereas, President Dennison supports the Day of Dialogue as an annual University function dedicated to  
11   conversation and education about diversity;

12  
13   Whereas, one of the main goals of the Day of Dialogue is to create campus-wide awareness about the richness  
14   diversity brings to all of us, the importance of learning from one another about the many cultures and traditions,  
15   and to listen to one another in order to find ways of creating and promoting a healthy, welcoming climate on our  
16   campus and in the Missoula community;

17  
18   Whereas, the Day of Dialogue brings students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and community members  
19   together for a day-long discussion concerning diversity-related issues – including topics of race, gender,  
20   ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, ability/disability, social and employment hierarchy;

21  
22   Whereas, the Day of Dialogue has been successfully growing for three years since its inception October 2006,  
23   with a variety of student and faculty-led activities, panel discussions, performances, workshops and  
24   presentations;

25  
26   Whereas, in 2008 the Day of Dialogue had 2,367 participants, which is 800 more people than the prior year;

27  
28   Whereas, according to the Day of Dialogue 2008 Participant surveys, this day was attended by students, faculty,  
29   and staff members across campus from various UM departments. Ninety percent of the respondents marked  
30   this day as a beneficial event, with a majority of respondents strongly agreeing that this day made them want to  
31   learn more, be more aware, discuss diversity and think more broadly;

32  
33   Whereas, diversity is an important campus commitment, and the Day of Dialogue will continue to be a valuable  
34   component of UM's annual activities;

35  
36   Whereas, institutionalizing the Day of Dialogue as a regular University event will stabilize and support the  
37   further growth of a successful forum;

38  
39   Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that the ASUM Senate fully supports the institutionalization of the Day of  
40   Dialogue;

41  
42   Furthermore, Let It Be Resolved that the ASUM Senate encourages Faculty and Staff Senate to support the  
43   institutionalization of the Day of Dialogue and to encourage the campus community to participate and consider  
44   presenting research or activities that relate to diversity issues.  
45

Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

Passed by Senate: \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair  
Andrew Dusek

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Senate  
Siri Smillie