5-7-2014

SB120-13/14: General Education Requirements

Shelby Ryann Dolezal
The Associated Students of the University of Montana  
Resolution Regarding General Education Requirements  
May 7, 2014  
SB120-13/14  
Authored by: Shelby Ryann Dolezal, ASUM Senator  
Sponsored by: Sarah Bowers, SAL

Whereas, many universities around the nation, including the University of Montana, continue to struggle with addressing and preventing sexual assaults;

Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) commends the efforts already made by the University of Montana in this area;

Whereas, policy changes and bringing awareness to the issue of sexual assault are necessary changes to combatting sexual assault; however, it is questionable as to whether these changes address the heart of the issue, which is a culture that enables these assaults to continue;

Whereas, if general education requirements included a greater number of classes dealing with gender, more students would receive some basic education on gender issues;

Whereas, education can change the way an individual thinks about an issue or subject and when thought changes, behavior changes;

Whereas, classes that discuss gender are already being taught in various departments such as the Women and Gender Studies Department, the Anthropology Department, and the Communication Studies Department;

Whereas, students must already take classes in eleven other perspectives, but none deal specifically with gender;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM encourages the University of Montana to allow more classes that deal with gender and gender issues to fulfill general education requirements;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that ASUM encourages the General Education Committee to reach out to professors who teach courses dealing with gender and invite them to apply to have their course satisfy a general education requirement;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Professor Nadia White, Chair of the General Education Committee; Professor Colin Henderson, Chair of the Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee; Professors Beth Hubble and Kim Brown Campbell, Co-Chairs of the University Council on Student Assault; Kathe Kountz, Interim Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action and Title IX Coordinator; Associate Professor Liz Putnam, Chair of Faculty Senate; and Royce Engstrom, President of the University of Montana.

Passed by Committee: May 5, 2014

Passed by ASUM Senate: May 7, 2014

Final Vote: 18Y-7A

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Sean McQuillan, Mariah Williams,  
Relations and Affairs Chair Chair of the Senate