



Student Government Resolution 116.008

**A Resolution Designating Indigenous Peoples' Day be recognized on Columbus Day
Sponsored by Christy Crouse, Chair of Diversity Committee, and Cory Hogan, Vice-Chair
of Diversity Committee**

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long-term best interests of the Student Association in the formulation of University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- Truman State University is geographically located on land historically belonging to the Missouria tribe and demonstrated at Thousand Hills National Park by petroglyphs dating back 1,500 years that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places;¹ and
- The Student Association approves the enhancement of diversity on Truman's campus by maintaining a primary standing committee devoted to a wide array of diversity facets on Student Government; and
- The Truman Student Government Diversity Committee supports and stands in solidarity with the minority and marginalized populations of Truman and the world; and
- Indigenous Peoples' Day is a day that aims to recognize and "commemorate the contributions of Native people";² and
- The Native American population and other indigenous groups enhance the diversity that makes Truman's campus a unique and welcoming university; and
- The idea of replacing Columbus Day with a day celebrating the indigenous people of North America first arose in 1977 by the United Nations in Geneva from the International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas;³ and
- Nationally, multiple universities are officially recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day in place of Columbus Day, such as Cornell University⁴, University of California, Berkeley, and Tufts University;⁵ and
- Several states with particularly unique histories concerning indigenous populations do not observe Columbus Day, such as Hawaii, South Dakota, Oregon, and Alaska, and many other states are considering renaming it Indigenous Peoples' Day.⁶

¹ <http://www.native-languages.org/missouri.htm>

² <http://ipdpowwow.org/IPD%20History.html>

³ http://ipdpowwow.org/Archives_1.html

⁴ <http://assembly.cornell.edu/SA/20111201R28v2>

⁵ <http://ase.tufts.edu/faculty/meetings/2014-2015/ase/02-04-2015/indigenousPeoplesDay.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/columbus-day>

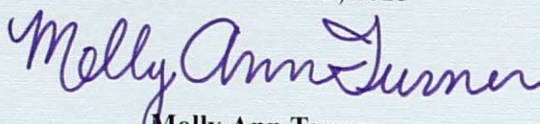
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- That the Student Government urges Truman State University to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on Columbus Day on any calendar distributed by the university every year from this day forward; and
- Encourages Truman State University to offer programming on the history of indigenous people in the Americas on Indigenous Peoples' Day, with Student Government being willing to assist to the best of its abilities.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY DIRECTS THAT,

- Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to University President, Troy Paino; Vice President of Academic Affairs, Susan Thomas; Vice President of Student Affairs, Lou Ann Gilchrist; Assistant Dean of Multicultural Affairs, Carol Bennett; Program Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs, Jerad Green; Institutional Compliance Officer, Jamie Ball; Director of Public Relations, Heidi Templeton; Public Relations Coordinator, Travis Miles; Chair of Department of Society and Environment, Amber Johnson; President of Student Activities Board, Lauren Darter; President of Minority Ambassadors Program, Valeria Toles; Anthropology Club President, Allison Kelly; Students for Social Change Student Contact, Taylor Bequette; President of Cultural & Societal Honor Society, Hope Berntsen; the Truman Media Network; and the Department of Special Collections.

Passed November 1, 2015



Molly Ann Turner
President of the Student Association