



### **Student Government Resolution 120.024**

#### **A Resolution of Support of The Proposal for a Gender and Sexual Diversity Center Sponsored by Kennedy Cooper, Diversity Committee Chair; Azeeza Eagal, Black Student Representative; Shania Montúfar and Lizzie Cremer, Associate Senators; Josh German, Vice President;**

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's mission; and
- In December 2015, The Student Government passed "A Resolution in Support of an LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer+) Resource Center on Truman State University's Campus"; and
- The Resolution iterated support for the creation of an LGBTQ+ Resource Center at Truman State University and "fully endorsed the planning process for an LGBTQ+ Resource Center, with the hopes of implementation by Fall 2016";<sup>1</sup> and
- In April 2016, The Student Government passed "A Resolution of Statistical Support for an LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer+) Resource Center"<sup>2</sup>; and
- This Resolution reiterated support for the creation of an LGBTQ+ Resource center, while being backed by a survey conducted by the Student Government Diversity Committee; and
- In this survey, 91% of students identifying as LGBTQ+ said that they would support the creation of an LGBTQ+ resource center, and 74% of students who did not identify as LGBTQ+ said they would support the creation of an LGBTQ+ resource center; and
- Truman State has a significant number of LGBTQ+ students<sup>3 4</sup> with more than 20% of the student body identifying as LGBTQ+ in 2020; and
- Other Universities in Missouri have implemented an LGBTQ+ resource center; and
- Truman State does not currently have a Gender and Sexual Diversity Center; and

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<sup>1</sup> [LGBTQIA+ Resource Center Resolution - Google Docs](#)

<sup>2</sup> [116.025.pdf \(truman.edu\)](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Truman enrolls above average number of LGBTQ students – Truman Media Network](#)

<sup>4</sup> [MACHB Gender Sexual Orientation Demographic Data.xlsx - Google Sheets](#)

- Truman State University does have a Women’s Resource Center and Interfaith Center, which shows that Truman has completed projects in the past, that are focused on the needs of student groups; and
- Brad Turnbull, Interim Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, has put together [a proposal to create a Gender and Sexual Diversity Center](#)<sup>5</sup>; and
- The creation of a Gender and Sexual Diversity Center would help provide resources to LGBTQ+ students, education to the campus community, and help identify and resolve inequalities that impact LGBTQ+ students; and
- If created, the resource center could be home to programming already offered at Truman State University, such as Safe Zone Training, Lavender Graduation, programming for commemorations such as National Coming Out Day and Transgender Day of Remembrance and more programming; and
- If created, the resource center could also provide mentoring and leadership opportunities for students, a lending library, and many other possibilities; and
- The creation of the Gender and Sexual Diversity Center would help to provide a more inclusive community for students whose needs are not currently met by resources available on Truman State University’s campus.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT,

- Supports the creation of a Gender and Sexual Diversity Center at Truman State University; and
- Supports the Gender and Sexual Diversity Center receiving its own dedicated space; and
- Supports the Gender and Sexual Diversity Center receiving regular funding for events and staff.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT,

- Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to Dr. Sue Thomas, President; Janna Stoskopf, Vice President for Student Affairs; Brad Turnbull, Interim Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion; Dr. Saint Rice, Incoming Director of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion; PRISM; TruTrans; the University Archives; the Truman Media Network.

Passed 18-2-1, April 18, 2021.



Katie Alexander, President of the Student Association

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<sup>5</sup> [The Proposal For a Gender and Sexual Diversity Center](#)