A Resolution to Support the Inclusion of a Bias Assessment and Response Team Statement on All Course Syllabi

Caroline Gonzalez (for herself, Tony Buss, Andrew Jackson, Sami Mubarak, John Kaczmarek, Mario Belfiglio, Sophie Chang, and Emily Underation) introduced the following resolution to the Steering Committee where it passed.

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Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The Ohio State University, and

Whereas The Ohio State University values diverse people and ideas, and strives to be an inclusive, supportive community,¹ and

Whereas The Ohio State University, and its regional campuses, enrolled 5.63% African Americans, 5.71% Asian Americans, 3.71% Hispanics, 0.15% American Indians/Alaskan Native, and 0.07% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander in the Autumn Semester of 2015,² and

Whereas the American Psychological Association acknowledges that a student’s awareness of discrimination and of their stigmatized racial status is associated with educational disparities,³ and

Whereas that there are complex connections between ethnic and racial identity and academic adjustment,³ and

Whereas former Vice President of Student Life, Rich Hollingsworth, and former Vice Provost for Minority Affairs and Chief Diversity Officer, Marc Stewart, confirmed the need for a bias response team in the fall of 2006,⁴ and

Whereas the response team headed by Vice President Hollingsworth and Vice Provost Stewart eventually became the Bias Assessment and Response Team, consisting of First Responders, Secondary Responders, Ex-Officio Responders, and Team Members,⁴ and

Whereas the Bias Assessment and Response Team receives, monitors, refers, and coordinates University responses to hate and bias-related incidents that impact all or a significant proportion of the University community,⁵ and

¹ https://www.osu.edu/initiatives/diversity.html
² https://www.osu.edu/osutoday/stuinfo.php
³ https://www.apa.org/ed/resources/racial-disparities.pdf page 8
⁴ http://www.studentaffairs.osu.edu/bias/history-of-bart.aspx
⁵ http://www.studentaffairs.osu.edu/bias/
Whereas incidents may involve bias or hate as a result of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, mental illness, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status,\(^5\) and

Whereas the Bias Assessment and Response Team uses the reports to help create responsive programing to trends of bias as well as to inform university policy decisions on equity, diversity, and inclusion,\(^6\) ibid. and

Whereas many students are not aware of the Bias Assessment and Response Team, and

Whereas all professors at The Ohio State University are encouraged to distribute course syllabi to their students, and

Whereas including a statement about the Bias Assessment and Response Team will increase awareness about the program for students who feel that they are a victim of bias or a hate crime, and

Whereas the Bias Assessment and Response Team would be able to make more informed decisions on equity, diversity, and inclusion by receiving more reports due to the increase in awareness;

**Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government recommends that all Ohio State University campuses encourage every academic department to include a statement about the Bias Assessment and Response Team in course syllabi.

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Floor Vote: PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Abby Grossman
President

Abby Waidelich
Vice President

Date Adopted: January 27, 2016

Date Terminated: __________________

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\(^6\) [http://www.studentaffairs.osu.edu/bias/policies-and-reports.aspx](http://www.studentaffairs.osu.edu/bias/policies-and-reports.aspx)