

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

Nick Prayner (for himself, Tony Buss, Vincent Liu, Noah Bidna, and Yousef Yacoub) introduced the following resolution to the Steering Committee, where it passed.

* * *

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 and 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 Natives, and 0.07% Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders 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 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

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/>

38 of the University community,⁵ and

39
40 **Whereas** incidents may involve bias or hate as a result of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender
41 identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, mental illness, military status,
42 national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status,⁵ and

43
44 **Whereas** the Bias Assessment and Response Team uses the reports to help create responsive
45 programming to trends of bias as well as to inform university policy decisions on equity,
46 diversity, and inclusion,⁶ and

47
48 **Whereas** many students are not aware of the Bias Assessment and Response Team, and

49
50 **Whereas** all professors at The Ohio State University are encouraged to distribute course syllabi
51 to their students, and

52
53 **Whereas** including a statement about the Bias Assessment and Response Team will increase
54 awareness about the program for students who feel that they are a victim of bias or a hate crime,
55 and

56
57 **Whereas** the Bias Assessment and Response Team would be able to make more informed
58 decisions on equity, diversity, and inclusion by receiving more reports due to the increase in
59 awareness,

60
61 **Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government at The Ohio State
62 University recommends that all Ohio State University campuses encourage every academic
63 department to include a statement about the Bias Assessment and Response Team in course
64 syllabi.

65
66
67

Floor Vote: Passed.

68
69

70 *Gerard C. Basalla*

Danielle M. DiScala

71 _____
72 Gerard Basalla
73 President

Danielle Di Scala
Vice President

74
75
76

77 Date Adopted: _____ 1/25/17 _____

Date Terminated: _____

⁶ <http://www.studentaffairs.osu.edu/bias/policies-and-reports.aspx>