

**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.

\* \* \*

**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,<sup>1</sup> 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,<sup>2</sup> 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,<sup>3</sup> and

**Whereas** that there are complex connections between ethnic and racial identity and academic adjustment,<sup>3</sup> 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,<sup>4</sup> 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,<sup>4</sup> 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,<sup>5</sup> and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.osu.edu/initiatives/diversity.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.osu.edu/osutoday/stuinfo.php>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.apa.org/ed/resources/racial-disparities.pdf> page 8

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.studentaffairs.osu.edu/bias/history-of-bart.aspx>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.studentaffairs.osu.edu/bias/>

41 **Whereas** incidents may involve bias or hate as a result of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender  
42 identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, mental illness, military status,  
43 national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status,<sup>5</sup> and  
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45 **Whereas** the Bias Assessment and Response Team uses the reports to help create responsive  
46 programing to trends of bias as well as to inform university policy decisions on equity, diversity,  
47 and inclusion,<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* and  
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49 **Whereas** many students are not aware of the Bias Assessment and Response Team, and  
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51 **Whereas** all professors at The Ohio State University are encouraged to distribute course syllabi  
52 to their students, and  
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54 **Whereas** including a statement about the Bias Assessment and Response Team will increase  
55 awareness about the program for students who feel that they are a victim of bias or a hate crime,  
56 and  
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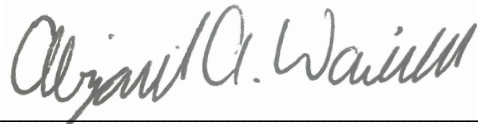
58 **Whereas** the Bias Assessment and Response Team would be able to make more informed  
59 decisions on equity, diversity, and inclusion by receiving more reports due to the increase in  
60 awareness;  
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62 **Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that the Undergraduate Student Government recommends that all  
63 Ohio State University campuses encourage every academic department to include a statement  
64 about the Bias Assessment and Response Team in course syllabi.  
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73 Floor Vote: PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT  
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80 Abby Grossman  
81 President  
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Abby Waidelich  
Vice President

Date Adopted: January 27, 2016

Date Terminated: \_\_\_\_\_

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