

**A Resolution to Advocate for the Implementation of Dialogue Spaces**

Noah Bidna (for himself, David Glass, Tony Buss, and Nick Prayner) 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 administration has made it a priority to educate students on diversity and inclusion issues with the President and Provost’s Diversity Lecture & Cultural Arts Series,<sup>1</sup> and

**Whereas** recent issues in the past year have made students feel uncomfortable and raised concerns for a lack of dialogue, and

**Whereas** the most commonly used space for diverse dialogue resides in the Multicultural Center, which only provides one limited space, and

**Whereas** the space should be made available to any student or student group without fees or student organization status as defined by the Ohio Union, and

**Whereas** various dialogue-based student groups on campus have voiced a need for more dialogue spaces on campus, and

**Whereas** the University of Nebraska’s dialogue space is conducive to intimate events with physical board-room style with two LCD screens;<sup>2</sup> and University of Michigan’s “Spectrum Center” is accessible to all students and promotes communication, social action, and collaboration with student groups and outside organizations;<sup>3</sup> and Michigan State’s “Safe Space” is meant to improve prevention efforts and community responsiveness while promoting safe shelter, advocacy, and support for all students,<sup>4</sup> and

**Whereas** administration has reached out to students for dedicated utility for the new and updated buildings within Framework 2.0,<sup>5</sup> and

**Whereas** Thompson and the Union are a centrally located building, open late, available to students, offers a plethora of rooms, and can be useful for health and wellness, and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.osu.edu/diversity/lecture.php>

<sup>2</sup> <http://stuafs.unl.edu/big-ten-room-union-takes-over-old-bank-location>

<sup>3</sup> <https://spectrumcenter.umich.edu/node/290/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://safeplace.msu.edu/services-and-programs/mission-statement>

<sup>5</sup> <https://pare.osu.edu/framework>

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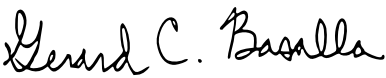
**Whereas** STEP rooms on North Campus Residential are accessible to on-campus students, are largely unused during the spring semester and when STEP classes are not in session, were originally built for “diversity training, intergroup dialogues, personal health and wellness programs, and professional development opportunities;”<sup>6</sup>


**Therefore Let it Be Resolved** that suggestions for the physical placement of the dialogue space(s) include but are not limited to new or updated buildings within Framework 2.0, unused or underutilized designated STEP rooms on North Campus Residential, or a converted Thompson or Union room, and

**Let it Further Be Resolved** that dialogue spaces are meant to accommodate diverse and positive discussion within a safe space, and

**Let it Further Be Resolved** that that no student demographic or individual may be barred from using this space based on demographic characteristics.

Floor Vote--Passed.

  
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Gerard Basalla  
President

  
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Danielle Di Scala  
Vice President

70 Date Adopted: 3/1/17

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

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<sup>6</sup> <http://whatsgrowingon.osu.edu/second-year-transformational-experience-program/>