

A Resolution to Encourage the Ohio State Community to Include Their Pronouns on CarmenCanvas

Gabe Myers (for himself, Mustafa Abubakr, Gregory Carson, Kelsey Lowman, and Lulu Montes) introduced the following resolution to the Diversity and Inclusion Legislative Committee, where it passed, and the Academic Affairs Legislative Committee, where it passed. It was then introduced to the Steering Committee, where it passed, and to the floor, where it passed.

* * *

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

Whereas CarmenCanvas provides a setting for users to display their pronouns on the platform,¹ and

Whereas, The Ohio State University has not adequately marketed the implementation of this setting and only posted about it once on their website in February 2020,² and

Whereas referring to transgender people with the wrong pronouns “can lead to that person feeling disrespected and can lead to dysphoria, exclusion and alienation”,³ and

Whereas when cisgender individuals share their pronouns it helps to normalize the act and creates safe spaces for trans individuals to share their pronouns without being the only ones doing so,⁴ and

Whereas in May 2020, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion’s webinar called “Pronouns: What They Are and Why They Matter” explained the increasing frequency of people sharing their pronouns in introductions and/or email signatures, what it means, and why people are doing it,⁵ and

¹ Appendix A

² <https://odee.osu.edu/news/2020/02/27/pronoun-selection-and-name-pronunciation-carmencanvas>

³ <https://www.colorado.edu/cisc/resources/trans-queer/pronouns>

⁴ <https://medium.com/matthews-place/why-cisgender-individuals-should-put-their-pronouns-in-their-bio-381fe9601734>

⁵ <https://u.osu.edu/moore.1817/2020/06/01/osu-webinar-on-pronouns-and-why-they-matter/>

Whereas according to the Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals of The Ohio State University, the university understands “that diversity and inclusion are essential components of our excellence”.⁶

Therefore, Let it Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government encourages students, faculty, and staff at OSU to include their pronouns on CarmenCanvas, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government encourages the incorporation of step-by-step instructions on including pronouns on CarmenCanvas into the curriculum of first year survey courses, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government urges professors and advisors to encourage students to include their pronouns on CarmenCanvas, and

Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government urges professors to include step-by-step instructions for including pronouns on CarmenCanvas in their syllabi.

Floor Vote: Passed with Unanimous Consent



Roaya Higazi

President

Nathan Rush

Speaker of the 53rd General Assembly

Date Adopted: September 9, 2020

⁶ <https://oaa.osu.edu/mission-vision-values-and-core-goals>

