

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

<b>RESOLUTION No.</b>	2014-15-14
AUTHORED BY:	Nathaniel McGuigan, Natural Resources and Sciences Representative
<b>REFERRED TO:</b>	AS COUNCIL ACTION APPROVED: March 5, 2015

## SUBJECT: Resolution in Recognition of Unified Students of Humboldt

WHEREAS, the Mission of Associated Students of Humboldt State University serves to "assist in the protection of the rights and interests of the individual student and the student body," and to "stimulate the educational, social, physical, and cultural well-being of the University community;" and,

**WHEREAS**, the Vision Statement of Humboldt State includes that "We will be renowned for social and environmental responsibility and action," and that "We will commit to increasing our diversity of people and perspectives; and,

WHEREAS, the Mission of Humboldt State University states that, "We strive to create an inclusive environment of free inquiry, in which learning is the highest priority. In this environment, discovery through research, creative endeavors and experience energizes the educational process; and,

WHEREAS, the published Core Values of Humboldt State University states, "We prepare students to take on the commitments of critical inquiry, social responsibility and civic engagement necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century," and "believe the University must assist in developing the abilities of individuals to take initiative, and to collaborate in matters resulting in responsible action."; and,

WHEREAS, on January 19th during the conclusion of the Native American Activism Conference members of Unified Students of Humboldt announced their residency of the Bolman Forum (formerly Native American Forum) to protest the firing of Dr. Jacquelyn Bolman and that they will stay there for an undetermined amount of time; and,

**WHEREAS**, for five weeks Unified Students of Humboldt resided in the Bolman Forum until HSU Administrators were willing to negotiate; and,

WHEREAS, members of Unified students of Humboldt are achieving what is asked of them by the Board of Trustees' unanimously endorsed *CSU Cornerstone Report* which states that students will have: "Increased involvement in all forms of active learning, a commitment to the values of civic life and reasoned debate, and a commitment to welcome the differences of opinion and perspective which best animates a healthy intellectual and social community;" and,

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WHEREAS, on February 23rd, in an act of good faith in advance of March 3rd's negotiation with President Rossbacher Unified Students of Humboldt ceased their residency of the Bolman Forum; and,

WHEREAS, the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution states that no law shall be made "prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble;" and,

WHEREAS, at the Bolman Forum Unified Students of Humboldt have engaged in a peaceful process of public assembly, where students are able to exercise their constitutional right to free speech; and,

WHEREAS, through public assembly and despite administrative responses, Unified Students of Humboldt remained respectful as classes were taught within in the Bolman Forum; Therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that HSU Associated Students encourage Humboldt State Administrators and the Unified Student of Humboldt to meet with open minds and mutual respect for each other and the process of mediation. The demands presented by the Unified Students of Humboldt should be carefully considered by the Humboldt State Administrators and that the outcomes of the mediation and any promises made should be respected by all; be it further

**RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to, but not limited to: CSU Chancellor Dr. Timothy White, HSU President Dr. Lisa Rossbacher, HSU Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs Jenny Zorn, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs Dr. Peg Blake, Dean of Students Randi Darnall Burke, Associate Vice President of Facilities Management Traci Ferdolage, University Police Chief Donn Peterson, Unified Students of Humboldt, local Tribal Nations, The Lumberjack Newspaper, Mad River Union and other local media.\_

President

Michael Kirakosyan Legislative Vice President

Nathaniel McGuigan Natural Resources and Sciences Representative and Author

#### List of Demands

HSU has the opportunity to set a precedent for which the entire CSU system may follow and better the course of education for all. Participate and negotiate in open dialogue regarding these demands in the presence of a mediator.

Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation, are people who want crops without ploughing the ground... The struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, or it may be both. But it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand; it never has and it never will. Frederick Douglass

**Unified Students of Humboldt Demands:** 

1. Reinstate and secure Dr. Jacquelyn Bolman's position as Director of INRSEP.

2. We demand a full and effective participation in the hiring process and the protection of staff and faculty.

2a. Students, Faculty and Staff have a unique discernment on their prospective programs. They must have an effective voice in any changes in their structure, employees and funding.

Hire and retain more People of Color. We demand full effective participation in a transparent hiring process for HSU staff, faculty and administration. We as students demand equal voting power on hiring, promotion, tenure committees and dismissal procedures in selecting and dismissing HSU staff, faculty and administration in order to ensure greater diversity at HSU. Adopt a ¼ students, ¼ faculty, ¼ administration model for these procedures. Faculty, Staff and Students who operate and participate in programs should be the ultimate say in the fate of their programs. (Implement immediately)

 Honor instead of retaliating against HSU staff and faculty who support students of color and our advocates. We demand these rights for our faculty and staff under the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 and Educational Code 66301 (Section F) to protect their first Amendment rights.

(Implement Immediately)

3. Indian Tribes have a unique government to government relationship with the United States. They must have an effective voice in any changes that happens to Native Programs at Humboldt State University.

• Acknowledge to Native American Tribes their inherent and legal rights to being involved with their Tribal Member's education. Adopt a ¼ Native Leaders, ¼ Native Students, ¼ Faculty, ¼ Administration model for the equal voting power on hiring, promotion, tenure committees and

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dismissal procedures in selecting and dismissing Native HSU staff, faculty and administration in order to ensure greater diversity at HSU. (Implement immediately)

• Collaborate to form a Native American Advisory Council regarding interrelation and education with the local Tribal Communities to better understand the population HSU serves. (Implement immediately)

• The currently named "Bolman Forum," as a symbolic gesture for our residency, it is not the "BSS Forum" and is for the Indigenous Community. The Indigenous Community will be in charge of approving and booking the classes and events in Bolman Forum to ensure priority to Indigenous education and activities. Access cards should be given to involved parties (INRSEP, ITEPP, Danza Azteca, etc.) The Native American Advisory Council will decide on the final name of the space. (Implement immediately)

4. Fully fund our Diversity Programs.

• Reallocate the \$40,000 promised to be restored by President Richmond to the INRSEP Program in a meeting last May. (Implement by April 2015)

· Approve the Native American Honor Tax. (Implement by April 2015)

• Streamline process for creating grants and scholarships for marginalized students including the Undocu Scholarship, thus increasing ease and accessibility for those affected .

• Eliminate administrative costs, fees, or any other monetary withdrawal from grants received by programs and departments within HSU. (Implement by April 2015)

• Students should be given a clear and easy choice upon registration to opt into either the athletic portion of the IRA fee (Spring 2015: 6.1+ units =\$262.41/semester, 0-6 units = \$156.51) or a diversity program portion of the IRA fee (to be created). Funds from this fee should benefit programs including but not limited to ITEPP and INRSEP. http://www2.humboldt.edu/studentfinancial/tuition\_fees.html#

5. Encourage and support cultural expression from the student population.

• Secure a place for the "mural project" to occur on campus and immediately allow the fruition of this process to take place. (Implement immediately)

· Approve the Native American Alumni Association. (Implement immediately)

• Free speech on campus should not be restricted to one hour a day in a designated place. Priority during amplified sound hours should be given to HSU students and alumni. Consult with the student population on campus to create more avenues of freedom of expression while maintaining an academic environment. (Implement Immediately)

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• Change Thanksgiving Break to Fall Break on all official Humboldt State University documents and academic calendars.

• Support the creation of more avenues for students to provide definitions of student success. Task forces should be created from the bottom up, not from the top down. Provide resources and incentives for students to participate with grant money and program funding.

6. Support Higher Education for Indigenous Students by expanding our Indigenous Programs and Departments.

• Fully Staff our programs, INRSEP and ITEPP, granting both programs 3 full time and permanent positions. (Implement by April 2015)

• Maintain and support programs with cross major advisors including ITEPP and INRSEP, secure their positions and funding. (Implement immediately)ve American Studies Department from the Anthropology Department. (Implement Immediately)

• Approve and secure a position for a Native American recruiter to outreach to Tribal Nations across the United States to increase the Native American student population. Aide in increasing the Native Population on campus. (Implement by April 2015)

• We demand the programs which RISS has appropriated to be moved back into their respective Colleges. This includes ITEPP to the College Professional Studies and INRSEP to the College of Natural Resources.

• The Indian Natural Resources Science and Engineering Program is NOT the STEM Center, change the name back to INRSEP on all official Humboldt State university documents and academic calendars. (Implement immediately)

7. Integrate Indigenous Education into the HSU Student Curriculum, HSU Hiring Practices and Student Orientation Process.

 Incorporate cross sectional access for degree requirements that involve studies surrounding people of color. One example of many; Black History and Native American Studies is American History and should meet curriculum criteria for History Majors and Minors. (Implement by Fall 2015)

• Approve an infrastructure to incorporate Indigenous education into the curriculum of any educator at HSU that desires it designed in consultation with the Native American Campus Community and Programs. (Implement immediately)

Give administration and HSU students the ability to learn about the local Indigenous history. Introduce cultural sensitivity and education during the Humboldt Orientation Program process as well as employee training processes. (Implement by Fall 2015)

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8. Support Higher Education for Students of Color and Fight Educational Segregation on Campus.

• Dissolve RISS or transform it to embrace our educational excellence. The color segregated program, RISS, is a cultural classification system which reinforces white supremacy in the University. Students of Color do not want to be "retained" based on cultural identity, rather, they want tools and mentors to aid in achieving goals through higher education. (Implement immediately)

• Hold the current Director of RISS, accountable for any academic, emotional, and economic damage caused to students and communities of color. ODI and RISS should be the strongest allies for People of Color. Instead RISS has contributed to massive degradation of programs designed to serve people of color. The Directors should be held accountable to their responsibilities for the populations they serve by the populations they serve. Positions of power are a privilege, students will have the ability to remove those who do not serve them successfully. (Implement immediately.)

9. Honor past and present agreements made between HSU and the community. Subject administration to an accountability process if terms are not kept or if a resolution is not met.

Honor the commitments made to the community throughout the years. In particular, the 2004 strategic plan and WASC report. (Implement immediately)

• Negotiations that are made between groups must be honored. Participate in co-collaborating an infrastructure to retain self-accountability to uphold these agreements. (Implement upon completion of negotiations.)

Student and community action have been instrumental to the acknowledgement of the many issues of social justice on this campus. Agreements between HSU, students and community must be upheld. It should not require those affected by broken administrative promises to take residency in a classroom for 35 days to make this clear. There will no negative academic or legal ramifications for all those affiliated with the Unified Students of Humboldt under Education Code 66301 (b). (Implement immediately.)