

DEPAUW STUDENT GOVERNMENT
A Resolution Concerning An Annual Day of Dialogue
Resolution No. 5

WHEREAS...DePauw University strives to create a safe space for all students regardless of class, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, ability, and religion.

WHEREAS...At DePauw University, “students hail from more than 40 nations around the globe, with international students making up approximately 10% of the student body. Domestic students of color make up nearly 20% of the student body. Multicultural faculty members make up approximately 19% of DePauw's faculty.” - DePauw Website. The diversity of the school’s composition is a crucial part of DePauw’s campus climate.

WHEREAS...The DePauw website reads: “Through campus resources, faculty governance, and student-led conversation, DePauw University seeks to promote intercultural dialogue, respect, inclusion, and community.” Over the past two years, DePauw has sought to fulfill this vision by providing space for intercultural conversation during the Day of Dialogue.

WHEREAS...DePauw University fosters a challenging academic environment for students that does not often provide proper space for students to have conversations with their peers regarding diversity and inclusion on campus. Class discussions that do involve dialogue about diversity are often limited to the relevant course topics. Additionally, in a classroom environment, students may feel uncomfortable sharing their thoughts on diversity issues as compared to smaller group discussions in a more informal setting. Given the multitude of competing extracurricular activities, setting aside time before or after class for conversations centering on critical conversations may be challenging.

WHEREAS... The DePauw student body should be given a set time, as well as a set safe space to have these critical conversations. Encouraging the entire student body to participate in these conversations that are critical to our campus success. To be an inclusive campus, DePauw must keep the conversation open to anyone and everyone who would like to participate, and students should be encouraged to attend any programming.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DePauw University commits to continuing conversations about power, privilege, diversity, and inclusion. These conversations must occur inside and outside the classroom.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DePauw University reallocate course time one day per academic year in order for students, faculty, and staff to dedicate time to building a more inclusive campus community. This set time will be planned by a group consisting of students, faculty, and staff across campus. During this day, members of the DePauw community will be able to discuss issues relevant to the greater DePauw, Greencastle, and global community with peers, staff, and faculty. We strongly believe setting aside an annual academic calendar day for discussion will promote a more inclusive campus climate and strongly benefit both members of the immediate DePauw community and our various communities at large.

Motioned by:
Senator Signature:

Aye _____
Nay _____
Abstain _____

Seconded by:
Representative Signature:

Aye _____
Nay _____
Abstain _____

Attested by:

(Secretary)

Approved by:

(President)

(Executive Vice President)

Date of Resolution Final Draft: April 17, 2016