



**Student Senate**  
2016-2017 Academic Year

*A Resolution urging for University adoption to support a more all-inclusive cultural shift embracing public support for all ethnicities and minorities, by erecting flag poles and flying flags representative of each.*

Presented on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

- Sponsor:** Christopher Gregory
- WHEREAS,** Permanent displays showing support of nationally or internationally recognized minorities and ethnicities is scarce or none existent; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Wayne State University embodies an extremely diversified student population; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Wayne State University should be doing more to display and support the diversity of its student population; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Students and Student Organizations are currently the primary entities, and in some cases the only entities repeatedly showing support to these groups through actions on campus; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Despite current University efforts, there is still animosity, hate, or unfamiliarity of such groups on its campus which needs to be acknowledged and diffused; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Wayne State University currently flies several University flags where other flags could be flown; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** Other Universities<sup>1</sup> also known for their diverse student population have similar flag displays in different configurations and locations; **AND**
- WHEREAS,** The flying or hanging of such flags in a common space helps International students or students belonging to a minority group feel more “at home” or “safe”.

[1] [University of Iowa](#), [Penn State](#), [Cambridge Colleges](#), [Temple University](#), [University of Arkansas](#), and there are many more that could be listed.

1. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages the permanent raising of flags representative of Wayne State University's diverse student population.
2. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages such a display to provide space for the addition of other flags in the future.
3. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages the following exceptions of flags to be flown: The confederate flag<sup>2</sup> or those strictly affiliated with religious organizations.
4. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages the requirement of a petition to be signed by a set number of currently enrolled students and/or faculty to fly any flags representative of minority organizations or movements.
5. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages the assembly of an adhoc committee between members of Student Senate, students interested in participating, DOSO and other appropriate University Administration to determine the best and most economical location and configuration for such a display to be reviewed by Student Senate on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.
6. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages the flying of flags associated with particular nationally or internationally recognized days underneath the American flag as is permissible by 4 U.S. Code § 7.
7. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages the University to consider also flying flags representative of other minority movements not just those Nationally or Internationally recognized underneath the American flag as permissible by 4 U.S. Code § 7.
8. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Assembly of the Wayne State University Student Senate highly encourages set dates to be determined by the proposed adhoc committee to fly flags petitioned to be flown on an annual basis until a National or International recognized date has been established.
9. **AND FINALLY BE IT ORDERED**, the Wayne State University Student Senate will circulate this resolution to all relevant outlets, including the University President, University Vice Presidents, and University administration/officials.

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*Anthony Eid*  
Anthony Eid  
President

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*Kristian Wright*  
Kristian Wright  
Vice President

[2] While the Supreme Court has prohibited the banning of flying the Confederate flag, we should not fly the Confederate flag for the same reasons provided by Mississippi University when they took theirs down.

During the recent reflection and discussion held in the ballroom this past week to discuss our feelings, concerns, and propose possibly steps forward, it was heart breaking to her how those with family in other countries were asking them to leave the U.S. because of the hostilities towards those they identify with ethnically. The World is watching us.

I spoke with a few other individuals, students, faculty, and members from the surrounding community about what it would mean to them if Wayne State University flew a certain flag or several flags . There was a resounding and very similar response; we need to hold one another up and support each other. While many felt it would be ideal if the University could fly every flag to recognize the struggles of minorities in our own society, we must also be able to separately lift up those of other minorities besides those we identify with or support.

With the World watching us, Wayne State University should help set a standard of what it means to publicly support its community and the society in which it hopes to build.



This is what the flag set-up currently looks like near Welcome Center (When new)

However, now flags are very worn out and need to be replaced anyway.



It should look more like this, to include flags of nationally recognized minority groups. Not in arrangement, but in diversification of flags.



Possible configurations in Student Center