



RESOLUTION TO REFORM UNIVERSITY APPEALS BOARD

Topic: Intended to expand the number of members present for each student code of conduct appeal hearing to a minimum of 3 students, 1 faculty, and 1 additional student or faculty member.

Authors: ASUO Senate Speaker Quadrian Gill, Sen. Bella Hoffert-Hay, Sec. Luke Foshay, Sen. Yvette Amo-Adiefeh, Dir. Blaise Malczewski, Sen. Robin Bailey, Sen. Logan Taylor, ASUO President Prissila Moreno

Cosponsors: University of Oregon Student Workers UAW-8121, MCC Student Staff

WHEREAS: The University of Oregon’s Mission Statement states: “The University of Oregon is a comprehensive public research university committed to exceptional teaching, discovery, and service. We work at a human scale to generate big ideas. As a community of scholars, we help individuals question critically, think logically, reason effectively, communicate clearly, act creatively, and live ethically;

WHEREAS: The University of Oregon states the reason for the Student Conduct Code as “community standards and procedures necessary to maintain and protect an environment conducive to learning and in keeping with the educational objectives of the University of Oregon;

Whereas: the Student Conduct Code establishes community standards and procedures necessary to maintain and protect an environment conducive to learning and in keeping with the educational objectives of the University of Oregon;

Whereas: the University Appeals Board (UAB) is an appeals body within the University of Oregon student conduct program;

Whereas: shared governance and student representation are core values of the university, and students are guaranteed participatory roles in governance and policy on their education, health, finance, and wellbeing;

Whereas: the University of Oregon's commitment to these principles of shared governance and education includes the protection of student organizing, advocacy, and collective expression under their First Amendment rights, through any student code of conduct process;

Whereas: the University Appeals Board (UAB) provides opportunities for student leadership, shared understanding, and a shared commitment to excellence at the University of Oregon.

Whereas: the three members are selected from the current UAB pool of faculty, professional staff, and students.

Whereas: there is no limit to the number of UAB members.

Whereas: the UAB is responsible for reviewing substantive and/or procedural appeals from decision issues following an administrative conference, consistent with the Student Conduct Code.

Whereas: transparency in UAB decisions promotes consistency, accountability, and trust in student conduct processes;

Whereas: students deserve to be informed in a timely manner if they are being investigated by the Student Code of Conduct process.

Whereas: the ASUO recognizes the increase in student code of conduct charges and, therefore, cases for the UAB.

Whereas: the University has demonstrated a capacity to expand the number of members on the University Appeals Board; ASUO recognized its role in expanding the pool even larger to accommodate for this reform.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON SENATE, ACTING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE ASUO CONSTITUTION:

We, the democratically elected representatives of the student body, urge the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards to include at least 3 student representatives, alongside the minimum 1 faculty and 1 additional seat for either a faculty, administrative staff or student, for a minimum total of 5 members for each university appeal.

ASUO urges the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards to inform ASUO of its shared responsibility to select students for the UAB within two weeks of a new ASUO administration taking office every spring.

ASUO affirms its commitment to communicating with the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards to nominate more potential student members of the UAB

ASUO encourages the UO Faculty Senate to pass a similar resolution supporting raising the minimum number of students present at every UAB hearing.

ASUO affirms that student majority representation in UAB appeals is necessary to safeguard due process, protect student rights, and preserve the legitimacy of student conduct governance at the University of Oregon.