



**S. R. 1516-05**  
**Passed on 10/18/15: 18-0-0**

*Expressing, Executing, and Evaluating the Racial Turbulence on  
the University of Dayton Campus*

Sponsor(s): Director Townsend Riley  
Co-Sponsor(s): Representative Hunter, Senator Williams,  
President Brill, Representative Rush, Adanna Smith, Tiara  
Jackson, Alexis Wingfield

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*Whereas*, the University of Dayton Student Government Association is the representative body for the undergraduate student population; and

*Whereas*, the University of Dayton Student Government Association seeks to identify problems facing students and pursue the assurance of the common good; and

*Whereas*, the University of Dayton Student Government Association endeavors to promote the Marianist spirit of inclusivity and community by advocating for underrepresented student groups based on factors including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, disability, residential location, gender, sexual orientation, class, nationality, income, and religion; and

*Whereas*, the University of Dayton's *Commitment to Community* defines the common good as "the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as *groups or individuals*, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily; and

*Whereas*, the African American Representative and several prominent leaders in the African American community at the University of Dayton have expressed the lack of the

Student Government Association's efforts to act upon the racial discrimination that occurs on the University of Dayton campus and the absence of action from the Student Government Association to create an inclusive community; and

*Whereas*, the African American Representative and several prominent leaders have noted the Student Government Association's silence when significant instances of injustice have occurred, such as when negative comments were made toward the African American student population during the peaceful "Black Lives Matter" protests in Fall 2014, when negative slander was directed towards individuals who advocated for removing the term "ghetto" when referencing the student neighborhood, and when Ben Carson was still allowed to speak at the University of Dayton arena less than 48 hours after making derogating statements about the Muslim community; and

*Whereas*, these are only a few examples of racial injustice on campus; and

*Whereas*, this silence has left the African American student population with a feeling of marginalization and contradicts the Student Government Association Marianist charism and commitment to inclusivity and community; and

*Whereas*, there is general concern within the African American student population that the total sum of social conditions, as influenced by the Student Government Association, prevents the aforementioned population from reaching their fulfillment more fully and more easily;

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Student Government Association—

1. Acknowledges that its past responses to racial injustice, or lack thereof, have been inadequate to address student concerns
2. Dedicates itself to addressing future instances of racial injustice in a timely and appropriate manner
3. Dedicates itself to repairing the campus climate so that all undergraduate student populations feel as if they are a part of the community.
4. Condemns all defaming, derogatory, or discriminatory language of any kind that affects any and every student at the University of Dayton regardless of race, sex, color, or creed
5. Dedicates itself to creating a formal approach to educating the campus about prominent social justice issues, and an efficient way to show support to those affected by distasteful campus climate.
6. Reaffirms its support for minority populations at the University of Dayton

Confirmation of vote result:

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Justin Abbarno, Speaker of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Executive Action:

Mike Brill, President

Date