

R W2016.12

A Resolution Requesting LSA Officially Recognize International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government

9 March 2016

Sponsors: Jason Colella & Nadine Jawad

Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;¹ and,

Whereas, both students’ academic and non-academic life is improved when students do not face racial discrimination; and,

Whereas, International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in October of 1966;² and,

Whereas, the University of Michigan has made strides for campus inclusivity and we acknowledge there is still a long ways to go in terms of campus inclusivity and preventing racial discrimination; and,

Whereas, there are many student organizations on this campus who work every day for racial equality and the abolition of systemic injustices faced by minority students on this campus; and,

Whereas, the University of Michigan has a long history of holding a day-long symposium for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and it is appropriate and fitting to hold multiple events in honor of the mission to end racial discrimination and injustices faced by students on this campus; and,

Whereas, this year the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (hereafter LSA) and the University of Michigan holistically have been targeting the increase of awareness and the implementation of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts and students deserve the right to more honored outlets to portray the importance of diversity and inclusion on campus; and,

Whereas, according to the Office of Registrar ethnicity report, as of 2015 56.2% of LSA students were classified as white, but only 4.1% were Black, 4.6% were Hispanic, and 11.2% were Asian and students of these underrepresented numbers should not be discriminated against for being a minority⁴; and,

Whereas, a college-wide day of recognition would allow for students to promote and spread awareness about backgrounds, ethnicities, and differences on a day college-wide recognized.

¹ The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

² <http://www.un.org/en/events/racialdiscriminationday/>

Be it therefore resolved, the day of March 21 to be recognized by LSA SG as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; and,

Be it further resolved, we will work the LSA Climate Committee to create an event in honor of this day in 2017; and,

Be it further resolved, the LSA SG Diversity Affairs Committee will hold an event on that day; and,

Be it further resolved, LSA SG will begin fostering relationships with organizations on campus to work on projects and events on this day to promote the message; and,

Be it further resolved, that LSA SG will launch a social media campaign on March 21 each year that LSA SG will work with LSA Development, Marketing, and Communications in our social media efforts; and,

Be it finally resolved, LSA SG will send a copy of this resolution and a signed letter of support, written by the LSA SG Executive Board in consultation with the sponsors to LSA Associate Dean Angela Dillard, and LSA Social Media Manager Matthew Adams.