PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

RESOLUTION No. SP23 – R004

Resolution in Support of Editable Gender – Inclusive Options Amongst Purdue Affiliated Websites

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WHEREAS, Inconsistent gender-inclusive options are prominent on various Purdue affiliated websites, including but not limited to: Brightspace, MyPurdue, MyHealth Push, RecWell, Boilerlink, and Success Factors; and

WHEREAS, These websites listed above have various ranges of gender-inclusive options, some with all available and others with limited/no availability, such as options to change: Pronouns, Gender Identity, or Sex; and

WHEREAS, "49.6% of trans-spectrum students selected 'below average/lowest 10%' compared to 15.8% of cisgender/non-transgender students" when asked to rate their emotional health;[1] and

WHEREAS, Purdue not having the systems in place to promote gender inclusivity nor the ability for students to always edit those gender-inclusive options contributes to the above statistics; and

WHEREAS, "Access to sources of gender-affirmative support can offset such negative psychological effects of social oppression [including,] high prevalence of psychological distress, including greater depression, lower self-esteem, and suicidal ideation";[2] and

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[1] https://www.purdue.edu/lgbtq/resources/gaps.php
[2] https://psycnet.apa.org/manuscript/2016-21290-001.pdf

WHEREAS, Multiple sources of gender affirmation may help to curb self-harm and poor mental health symptoms in transgender people.";[3] and

WHEREAS, Brightspace allows for pronouns to be enabled by setting the d2l.Settings.EnablePronouns (Org) configuration to on;[4] and

WHEREAS, "At least 205 colleges enable students to indicate the pronouns they use for themselves on course rosters" notable among those are: The Ohio State University, University of Maryland College Park, University of Pittsburgh, and University of Indianapolis as well as many others;[5] and

WHEREAS, The Ohio State University allows students display their pronouns on their learning management site, Carmen Canvas, by opting to select their pronouns in their account settings; allows students and staff to set their preferred first and last name on their identity management site, my.osu.edu, which updates their display name across OSU systems, including, but not limited to: Carmen Canvas, class rosters, university email, official university correspondence, and single-sign-on sites (ex. SharePoint); allows students to request a new student ID, free of charge, with their preferred name;[6] and

WHEREAS, University of Maryland allows students to freely change their pronouns on their learning management site, Canvas, at will, where students can choose from a list of: "none", "she", "he", "they", "ze", "she/they", "they/she", "he/they", "they/he", "ze/they", "they/ze", "he/she", "she/he", "she/ze", "ze/she", "he/ze", "ze/he", "any pronouns are okay", "any pronouns, mix it up", "no pronouns, just use my name", and "ask me my pronouns"; and

WHEREAS, University of Pittsburgh allows students to specify pronouns through NameCoach, a tool that allows users to record and share the pronunciation of their name, and Accounts Self-Service, which displays in their learning management site, Canvas, and optionally, in Find People, the online university directory; allows students and staff to change their preferred first and middle names through Accounts Self-Service, which propagates across: Canvas, Pitt Email, the Student Information System, and Find People;[7] and

WHEREAS, The University of Indianapolis allows for the option to update preferred first name, personal pronouns, and gender identification through their identity management system, MyUIndy, which then links to their Brightspace pages; allows for students to request a new ID card; allows for students to request a new university email address;[8] and

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[3] https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7494544/

[4] https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/le/user_management/admin/pronouns.htm

[5] https://www.campuspride.org/tpc/records/

[6] https://lgbtq.osu.edu/support/preferred-name-and-name-change-at-ohio-state

[7] https://www.technology.pitt.edu/help-desk/how-to-documents/updating-user-identity-and-account-information

[8] https://uindy.edu/inclusion/lgbtqia/trans-resources

WHEREAS, Various universities across the country have integrated these technological options, and Purdue University would be following a growing trend of inclusivity by integrating this at the university level.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Purdue allow students to edit gender-inclusive options, such as Pronouns and Gender-identity, across various websites.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all websites which include gender-identity or sex options use gender-inclusive language (i.e. gender rather than sex), and include at least these options: Male, Female, Nonbinary, Undisclosed, and Other, which allows for user input.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all websites which include pronouns include at least these options: he/him, she/her, they/them, and Other, which allows for user input.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a link is placed on MyPurdue and on the Office of The Dean of Students' website that has all of the links to Purdue affiliated websites where the students can edit their gender-inclusive options.
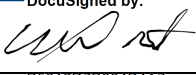
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the future, there will be work towards getting all websites synchronized on the gender-inclusive options through one online service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be sent to Graduate Student Government for consideration for a joint resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this be sent to the Student Affairs Committee of the University Senate for consideration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be sent to the Office of the Dean of Students, Provost's Office, President Mitch Daniels.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of February 2023.

DocuSigned by:

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President, PGSG

DocuSigned by:

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Senate Chair, PGSS

Certification

I, Mary Brown, Senate Clerk of the Purdue Graduate Student Senate, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly passed and adopted by the Purdue Graduate Student Senate of Purdue University, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 15th day of February 2023 by the following vote:

AYES (42): Agricultural and Biological Engineering – Samantha Neeno (Acting Senator)
Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication - Bryanna Nelson
Animal Sciences - Sarah Innis
Anthropology - Olivia Palepoi
Aviation and Transportation Technology - Shantanu Gupta
Basic Medical Sciences - Siyuan Sun
Biochemistry - Steven McKenzie
Biological Sciences - Morgan Chaney
Biomedical Engineering - Michael Zimmerman
Botany and Plant Pathology - Ricky Critchfield
Chemical Engineering - Annie Sun
Chemistry - Solita Wilson
Civil Engineering - Agustin Quinones
Communication - Savannah Meier
Comparative Literature - Marisa J Bryans
Computer Science - Jacob White
Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences - Austin Blevins
Ecological Sciences and Engineering (ESE) - Neha Shakelly
Economics - Talha Cakir
Electrical and Computer Engineering - Somosmita Mitra
Engineering Education - Barbara Fagundes
Engineering Technology - Archana Dharanipragada
English - Alex Anderson
Environmental and Ecological Engineering - Aliya Edhe
Forestry and Natural Resources - Ken Yao Chong
Health Sciences - Sydney Stradtman
History - Secret Permenter
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture - Camila Ulloa Gomez
Hospitality and Tourism Management - Rachel Zhang
Industrial Engineering - Utkuhan Genc
Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBSC) - James Kirby
Languages and Cultures - Santiago Parra Giraldo
Materials Engineering - Daniel Sinclair
Mechanical Engineering - Meghavin Bhatasana
Nuclear Engineering - Stepan Ozerov
Nutrition Science - Qianyue Wang

Philosophy - Mary Brown
Physics and Astronomy - Shayamal Singh
Political Science - Matthew Ellis
Public Health - Sidney Smith
Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences - Brooke Rodgers
Technology, Leadership, and Innovation - Elizabeth Thompson

NAYS (1): Agricultural Economics - Haseeb Daudzai

ABSENT (9): Curriculum and Instruction - Theodora Amuah
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) - Alaunie Smiley
Educational Studies - Stephanie Contreras
Global Supply Chain Management - Rohan Saini
Human Development and Family Studies - Amy Loviska
Industrial and Physical Pharmacy - Pradnya Prakash Bapat
Purdue University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) - Lauren Wilbanks
Sociology - Reilly Kincaid
Veterinary Clinical Sciences - Ojo Oluwabunmi T.

ABSTAINED (4): Agronomy - Binod Gyawali
Food Science - Anaël Kimble
Management - Arindam Roy Chowdhury
Statistics - Sagar Ksheera (Acting Senator)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of March 2023.

Senate Clerk, PGSS