

Passed
Oct. 18, 1994

A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING THAT A RACIAL HARASSMENT POLICY REMAIN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS.

WHEREAS: In 1989, a University committee, created to determine the campus' policies on racial harassment, recommended that it was extremely important to have the services of a race relations counselor at the University of Texas at Austin, and

WHEREAS: In 1990, certain racial harassment incidents occurred that vividly illustrated some of the discrimination and animosity that minority students on this campus face, leaving a lingering impression among minority students today, and

WHEREAS: The previous race relations counselor, Mr. Curtis Polk, earlier this month resigned, leaving the position currently vacant, and

WHEREAS: The University administration has demonstrated that this issue appears to lack priority, due to the fact that a successor has not been found, and won't be named for quite some time according to the Dean of Students, and

WHEREAS: The University has considered replacing the position of a race relations counselor with other administrators that would focus upon multiple responsibilities, and

WHEREAS: There is currently no formal infrastructure to resolve disputes in an expeditious and efficient fashion which sends to students an unclear message, leaving them vulnerable to future racial harassment incidents, and

WHEREAS: Without an effective racial harassment policy, the University will enhance the image among students, faculty, and the public that this campus is a hostile environment for minority students, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN THAT:

The Students' Association stand firm in its commitment to student services by advocating to the University of Texas administration that an administrator continue to remain in charge of resolving racial harassment incidents and the position remain within the Office of the Dean of Students. In addition:

- 1) The position of Race Relations Counselor should not be eliminated. In fact, it should be made a top priority by the University to fill the current vacancy as soon as possible.
- 2) Students should be informed about the prospective candidates that are being screened for the position.
- 3) Students should ~~be given the opportunity to~~ serve on the selection committee, and priority should be given to minority students since it is those policies by the new counselor that will ultimately affect said students.

Sponsored by Representative Garcia