

Passed by unanimous consent  
11/21/2014

**AR 19: In Support of Implementing a Cultural Component in the Summer Orientation Campus Safety Program**

**Author:** Michael "Ugeo" Williams, Ali Raza, Courtney May, Philip Wiseman, Taylor Strickland, Andrew Grant Houston

**Sponsors:** Junho Ahn, Caroline Carter, Andrew Grant Houston, Courtney May, Ali Raza, Veronica Rivera, Taylor Strickland, and Maddie Weakley

**WHEREAS,** The Student Government at the University of Texas at Austin serves as the official and representative voice of students to the university and the City of Austin<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** Students have shared high concerns surrounding safety on and off campus in regards to incidents in the University's past<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** This includes incidents such as 9/1<sup>3</sup>, a gunman on campus similar to the September 28, 2010 incident<sup>4</sup>, bomb threats<sup>5 6</sup>, and balloon attacks<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** Recent incidents west of campus, such as balloon attacks, have been publicized at an increasing frequency – affecting many students<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** These incidents have often been reported to have occurred in off-campus communities; such as west of campus, north of campus, and East Riverside, that are not owned by the University<sup>7</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** The Campus Climate Response Team (CCRT) in which students can report such incidents does not have enough resources to service the University of Texas at Austin and its entirety<sup>8</sup>; and,

---

<sup>1</sup> UTSG Const. Art. I

<sup>2</sup> Long, Alberto. "Bleach or no bleach, balloon attacks in West Campus cause controversy." *The Daily Texan* (Austin, TX), September 14, 2013, News. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/2013/08/28/reported-bleach-bomb-likely-to-have-been-filled-with-water>.

<sup>3</sup> Stone, Rachel. "Attacks spread fear, disbelief through campus community." *The Daily Texan* (Austin, TX), September 12, 2001, University, 1-2.

<sup>4</sup> Vega, Jackie. Jackie Vega to KXAN News Online newsgroup, "Powers to parents: Your kids are safe," September 29, 2010. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.kxan.com/news/breaking-news/reports-of-armed-man-inside-ut-library->

<sup>5</sup> Vega, Jackie. Jackie Vega to KXAN News Online newsgroup, "University of Texas classes canceled," September 14, 2010. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.kxan.com/news/local/austin/threat-evacuates-all-of-ut-campus>.

<sup>6</sup> Janzen, Eric. Eric Janzen to KXAN newsgroup, "Bomb threat under investigation at UT," April 11, 2013. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.kxan.com/news/local/austin/bomb-threat-under-investigation-at-ut>.

<sup>7</sup> Long, Alberto. "UTPD seeks expanded jurisdiction in West Campus." *The Daily Texan* (Austin, TX), September 18, 2013, University. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/2013/09/18/utpd-seeks-expanded-jurisdiction-in-west-campus>.

<sup>8</sup> Rudner, Jordan. "UT Campus Climate Response Team address issues of bias." *The Daily Texan* (Austin, TX), March 17, 2013, University. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/news/2013/03/17/ut-campus-climate-response-team-address-issues-of-bias>.

**WHEREAS**, Students have less of a tendency to report such incidents due to, but not limited to, time constraints, negligence, lack of information on protocol, lack of support from peers, etc. suggesting a greater number of incidents than reported<sup>9</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, There are conversations currently being held surrounding the expansion of The University of Texas Police Department's jurisdiction within the City of Austin to areas such as west of campus<sup>10</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, By implementing the cultural component during Summer Orientation, it would address the largest number of incoming students in one setting; and,

**WHEREAS**, Incoming first year students, including freshmen, transfer students, and graduate students, could be most receptive with the information provided regarding the campus climate at the University; therefore be it,

**RESOLVED**, That the Student Government of The University of Texas at Austin believes that it would be beneficial and supports the addition of a cultural component to the Summer Orientation Campus Safety Programs; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, The immediate implementation would expand discussions surrounding issues dealing with campus safety and cultural awareness; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, A proposed cultural component for the Summer Orientation Campus Safety Program would consist of, but is not limited to, acts surrounding educational information about targeted and/or marginalized groups in relation the University's history; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, That Student Government of The University of Texas at Austin believes the implementation of a cultural component for Summer Orientation Campus Safety Program supports and addresses student concerns and furthers conversations surrounding the current campus climate and improves cultural awareness; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, That official copies of this resolution be sent to the Office of the Mayor of the City of Austin, members of the Austin City Council, the Austin Police Department, the University of Texas Police Department, the Office of the President, the Vice President of Diversity and Community Engagement, the Campus Climate Response Team, the Multicultural Engagement Center, the Campus Events + Entertainment, the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Office of the Dean of Students, the Office of New Student Services, *The Daily Texan*, and all other media outlets deemed necessary.

---

<sup>9</sup> Long, Alberto. "Bleach or no bleach, balloon attacks in West Campus cause controversy." *The Daily Texan* (Austin, TX), September 14, 2013, News. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/2013/08/28/reported-bleach-bomb-likely-to-have-been-filled-with-water>.

<sup>10</sup> Long, Alberto. "UTPD seeks expanded jurisdiction in West Campus." *The Daily Texan* (Austin, TX), September 18, 2013, University. Accessed December 2, 2013. <http://www.dailytexanonline.com/2013/09/18/utpd-seeks-expanded-jurisdiction-in-west-campus>.