

Resolution in support of expanding gender-inclusive housing options at The University of Wisconsin - Green Bay

Author(s): Connor Tenor, Natalie Ward, Sylvia Pierce

Co-sponsor(s): Harrison Thiry, Speaker of the Senate; Brooke Bayerl, Senator

Whereas, Providing options for people to live on campus in safe and inclusive environments is important for the health and safety of residential students of all backgrounds;

Whereas, Some students are unable to take part in Safe and Inclusive Living (SAIL) despite wanting to take part in gender-inclusive housing for various reasons such as parents that don't know their child's sexual orientation or gender identity;

Whereas, The University of Wisconsin - Green Bay is "committed to developing a robust campus community that is inclusive through the creation of a welcoming and equitable environment;" 1

Whereas, According to the California Polytechnic State University, gender-inclusive housing "is an option in which two or more students share a room or apartment regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, identity, or expression;"²

Whereas, According to the University of Minnesota - Morris, "gender-inclusive housing aims to be an option for students who would feel more comfortable with someone outside of their designated sex and/or someone with a similar gender identity;" ³

Whereas, According to Campus Pride, "at least 425 colleges and universities have gender-inclusive living;"4

Whereas, The Universities mission and vision is "to be a university that fearlessly meets challenges, solves problems, embraces diversity, cares about our region and provides access to education for all who want it; Through these actions, we honor the innovative spirit of the founders of the University and move ourselves forward;"⁵

Whereas, During a conversation with Senator Ward during an RHAA meeting, Adam Neveau, Associate Director for Housing and Residential Education, indicated support for gender-inclusive housing;

¹ Message from the Vice Chancellor - University Inclusivity & Student Affairs - UW-Green Bay

² Gender-Inclusive Housing - University Housing - Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

³ Gender Inclusive Housing | Student Life

⁴ Colleges and Universities that Provide Gender-Inclusive Housing - Campus Pride

⁵ <u>UWGB | University Mission</u>



Whereas, a common concern regarding gender-inclusive housing is the possibility of romantic couples living together that might later break up;

Whereas, same-sex couples are not prohibited from living together in campus housing;

Whereas, coupled students may live together off-campus, and providing the opportunity to live together on campus could help to retain more students in housing;

Whereas, coupled students may learn life skills from living together in a manner consistent with the ideal of residential education at UWGB;

Whereas, all conflicts and issues are resolved using the roommate agreement contract and housing policies as within any other area of housing;

Therefore, be it resolved, that University of Wisconsin - Green Bay offer gender-inclusive housing on campus;

Therefore, be it further resolved, that the Safe and Inclusive Living (SAIL) community remain a part of gender-inclusive housing, but that gender-inclusive housing be further developed outside of the SAIL community in a manner that minimally interferes with any current operations;

Therefore, be it finally resolved, that upon passage of this resolution, it be provided to all concerned university officials and any active RHAA body for their consideration.

Vice President	Speaker of the Senate
President	