

Resolution on Gender Neutral Housing Expansion

3 December, 2008

Whereas, Washington University in St. Louis students deserve the freedom to live with whom they choose and are most comfortable; and

Whereas, Providing the option of gender neutral housing in university-owned housing advances the establishment of such freedom;

Whereas, The Office of Residential Life's December 2006 survey found that 74% of students would consider utilizing gender neutral housing if it was available to upperclassmen;

Whereas, The gender neutral pilot program has been proven successful by the Office of Residential Life's October 2008 survey of current residents in gender neutral housing, which elicited exceptionally positive responses;

Whereas, Current residents cited expansion of available gender neutral locations as their primary recommendation regarding improvements to the program;

Whereas, Evidence from the implementation of gender neutral housing at peer institutions, such as New York University and Case Western Reserve University, supports expansion of the program beyond its pilot status;

Whereas, Expanding gender neutral housing will further assert the University's vision of fostering equality and eliminating discrimination; therefore be it

Resolved, That Student Union recommends the Office of Residential Life expand gender neutral housing beyond its current locations to encompass all upper-class housing on the North Side and in the off-campus apartments, with a potential starting date of the Fall of 2009; and be it further

Resolved, That Student Union also recommends that the Office of Residential Life more widely publicize the gender neutral housing program, to ensure students are informed of the program's availability.

Chase Sackett
Senator Sponsor

Jordan Aibel
Speaker of the Senate

Brittany Perez
Student Union President