Highlights from the Board Equity Resolutions

April 15, 2022
Power of an Equity Resolution

A call to action with resources that align with stated goals

Provides context, data, and education on existing structural barriers

Creates visibility and awareness for marginalized and underrepresented populations
RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE
POSITIVE IMPACT OF DREAMERS
WITHIN USHE

March 2021
CALL TO ACTION FOR DREAMERS

“We will collaborate with our colleges and universities and K-12 partners to expand dedicated resources and streamline processes, including but not limited to admissions and enrollment, that support Dreamers, undocumented, and DACA-eligible individuals.”

“We Are All DREAMers” rally in Salt Lake City on Sept. 16, 2017
The Journey: From Awareness to Action to Change

November 2020  Presentation from UU’s Dream Center to the Board
January 2021  CDOs call for action from the Board to affirm support of Undocumented students
March 2021  The Board adopts resolution on behalf of Dreamers
May 2021  The Board adopts Strategic Plan that includes a tactic under affordability to streamline the H.B. 144 affidavit
July 2021  Utah Dreamers Coalition begins reconvening
THE CHARGE

Identified next steps from the Utah Dreamers Coalition

• Removing barriers to entry and participation for undocumented students in Concurrent Enrollment

• Standardizing H.B. 144

• Continue to work legislatively to ensure more state and institutional scholarships are inclusive of Utah’s undocumented students
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT & CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH WITHIN USHE

May 2021
“WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, and Emancipation Day, celebrates the emancipation of those who had been enslaved in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the nineteenth day of June is officially recognized as the day when enslaved peoples in Texas learned of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation that had been issued by President Lincoln more than two years earlier;

WHEREAS, during this time, the nation celebrates the accomplishments, inventions, triumphs, and resiliency of African American, African, and Black peoples in this country;”
SYSTEM ACTION

- Updating R821 to recognize Juneteenth as an official USHE holiday (May 2022)
- Publishing an annual Juneteenth report that shares Concurrent Enrollment, Financial Aid, PS Enrollment and Completion student data for African, African American, Black students along with R805 staff and faculty representation data
- Working with Expect the Great leaders to provide additional structure and vision for the future of the program
AN INVITATION: OPPORTUNITIES FOR INSTITUTIONS TO ENGAGE

1. Allocate funding to support events and academic scholarship that expands awareness of African American and Black history and culture.

2. Share transparent institutional and statewide representation data to better inform current and future policy and programming.

3. Provide representation and investment for the Expect the Great conference for Utah’s African American and Black students.

4. Support African diaspora centers and initiatives that advance academic discourse, education, and support Black students at Utah institutions.

5. Provide mental health support for and by Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) that takes into account racial trauma and healing.

6. Provide funding for HIPs that are culturally relevant, such as student educational travel to historical museums and landmarks.
RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM & SUPPORT USHE’S LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

March 2021
NEXT STEPS

April-July: Begin meeting with LGBTQ Centers, students, staff, faculty, IR teams, community partners, to begin drafting the USHE LGBTQ+ best practices guide

August-October: Developing USHE LGBTQ+ best practices to inform the System and institutions on how to best support and facilitate the success of LGBTQ+ students.

October 21, 2022: Share with Student Affairs Committee for approval to take to Committee of the Whole.

November 18, 2022: Take to Board Committee of the Whole for adoption