Title: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A FULL-TIME, FACULTY-LEVEL Q CENTER DIRECTOR

Sponsored and written by: Dave Iseminger (GPSS Vice President) and Noah Benson (GPSS GBLT Senator) on behalf of the graduate and professional students involved with the ASUW Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Student Commission.

Co-Sponsored by: Yutaka Juno (GPSS Secretary) and Shawn Mincer (Social Work Senator)

Resolution Number: 3.08-09

WHEREAS University policy is to promote diversity on campus; and

WHEREAS gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, two-spirit, intersex and queer students (hereinafter collectively referred to as "queer"), staff, and faculty are an important part of campus diversity; and

WHEREAS the Q Center has been a crucial safe space for queer students, staff, and faculty on campus since 2004; and

WHEREAS the Q Center has created positive change on this campus in many ways, including providing SafeZone training to over 1,000 members of the campus community; and

WHEREAS the Q Center provides brief crisis intervention services to queer students at a time when they may be most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS the Q Center has organized important annual campus events to build community and support and celebrate the queer community such as the GBLTQ Welcome Luncheon, Coming Out Day, the annual QPOC Colors reception, Transgender Awareness Week, and Lavender Graduation that have made the campus more welcoming of the queer community; and

WHEREAS the Q Center empowers students to educate and advocate for queer student issues including the need for gender neutral and unisex bathrooms; and

WHEREAS the Q Center’s discussion groups have encouraged dialogue among different communities on campus; and

WHEREAS the Q Center provides countless resources to the UW community, including its extensive lending library; and

WHEREAS the Q Center operates from an anti-oppression framework, recognizing the intersectionality of all oppression and works to dismantle it; and
WHEREAS all of the Q Center’s accomplishments have occurred despite the fact that currently the University provides funding for only a part-time Director, because of the commitment, dedication and countless unpaid hours of current director Jennifer Self who graduates within the next academic year; and

WHEREAS the Q Center could accomplish even more on campus if it had a full-time Director, especially in light of the 2007 donation by David Kopay of $1,000,000 dollars that created an endowment to support Q Center activities; and

WHEREAS the Q Center could provide valuable leadership in the development of a Queer Studies Curriculum if the Director was a member of the faculty; and

WHEREAS the most highly-qualified candidates for Q Center Director will be difficult to recruit and retain if the position is not a full-time, faculty-level position; and

WHEREAS other highly regarded Universities in the United States such as Duke University, the University of Michigan, the University of Minnesota, and the University of California – Los Angeles, all have full-time, faculty-level Directors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the GPSS supports the University funding a full-time, faculty-level Director for the Q Center; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to Vice President for Minority Affair & Vice Provost for Diversity Sheila Edwards Lange, University of Washington Student Regent Jean-Paul Willynck, Vice-Provost of Student Life Eric Godfrey, ASUW President Antimo Bennett, Chair of the ASUW Student Senate Jon Solomon, and Student Activities Fee Committee Chair Matt York.

Presented to GPSS for approval on November 5, 2008

Approved on November 5, 2008