

1 Title: **RESOLUTION URGING THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF**
2 **WASHINGTON’S PREPAREDNESS IN THE EVENT OF AN ACTIVE SHOOTER**

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10 Resolution Number: 01.15-16

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12 WHEREAS school shootings have become tragically visible realities in America’s educational
13 sphere¹; and

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15 WHEREAS all members of the University of Washington community have the right to feel safe
16 and informed in the event that an incident occurs; and

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18 WHEREAS the University of Washington’s current active shooter prevention and preparedness
19 communications, while well-intentioned, are sporadically designed, implemented, disseminated
20 and reinforced to the University community²; and

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22 WHEREAS the aforementioned problems can be addressed with a coordinated communicative
23 effort including new student and staff orientation and campus-wide email and the University of
24 Washington’s “Panopto” software (which contains the needed technology to enable an improved
25 informative effort³); and

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27 WHEREAS employing the aforementioned methods in an opt-in manner will enable the
28 information to be both effectively and diplomatically conveyed to the University of Washington
29 community,

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31 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT
32 SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

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¹ High-profile school shooting incidents include: The Columbine High School Massacre, the Virginia Tech Massacre, the fatal shooting of kindergarteners in Newtown, CT, the very recent fatal shooting at Umpqua Community College (Oregon), the fatal shooting at Marysville-Pilchuck High School, and the fatal shooting at Seattle Pacific University (these examples, which are far from exhaustive, are listed owing to the particularly high level of media coverage they received or because of their proximity to the University of Washington).

² For example, The [Active Shooter Guide](#) can only be located through substantial navigation of the UW website.

³ [Panopto](#) is a platform which can be used to generate lecture-style videos, along with the necessary data for “hardcopy” of its content.

34 THAT this body suggests an informative, safety-inclusive, video (or other mode of
35 communication) be generated in a coordinated effort between student leaders and other members
36 of the University of Washington community, including administration. One possible
37 communication sequence might⁴ be an informative three-episode Panopto series be created to
38 include: 1) escape, evade, and engage strategies during an active shooter incident, 2) safety
39 recommendations in the immediate aftermath of an active shooter incident, and 3) information
40 regarding pathways to post-incident counseling on University of Washington campuses; and

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42 THAT, (assuming the above approach is implemented), print material outlining the information
43 presented in the three-episode series be generated and available in PDF format on the University
44 of Washington Campus Safety and Community Resources webpage under Active Shooter
45 information; and

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47 THAT this three-episode series and the print materials, or the alternatively-agreed upon
48 communications, be available and strongly endorsed at all new student, faculty, and staff
49 orientations and trainings; and

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51 THAT this three-episode series and the print materials, or the alternatively-agreed upon
52 communications be available online to all University of Washington students, faculty, and staff
53 in an exclusively opt-in format; and

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55 THAT this three-episode series or the alternatively-agreed upon communications be
56 disseminated to all current students, faculty, and staff each year to reinforce the aforementioned
57 measures; and

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59 THAT a disclaimer about graphic and potentially disturbing content be included with the
60 dissemination of the aforementioned information (in the event that the communication's
61 producers deem such a disclaimer necessary); and

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63 THAT the aforementioned information's content be decided upon, developed, and implemented
64 by a joint task force introduced into the University of Washington Community by the Graduate
65 and Professional Student Senate. This joint task force will consist of two groups: One will be a
66 student group (piloted by Senator Giuliana Conti⁵ and in extensive collaboration with the
67 Graduate School of the University of Washington, the Associated Students of the University of
68 Washington, and through in-depth consultation with SafeCampus, law enforcement and assorted
69 academic experts). The other collective already essentially undertaken by administration is

⁴ The Graduate and Professional Student Senate stresses that we have articulated this particular video in order to be constructively illustrative of one legitimate possibility, rather than to dictate to administration.

⁵ Or another senator, to be selected by the Vice-President of Internal Affairs, in the event that Senator Conti is unavailable.

70 constituted at their complete discretion. The two groups will endeavor to create mutually-
71 acceptable Active Shooter Preparedness Communications; and

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73 THAT the Campus Safety and Emergency Resources section of the University of Washington
74 website be organized by priority for ease of navigation and information dissemination; and

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76 THAT this measure be seen as a contribution to an overarching movement toward dialogues on
77 creating a safer and more informed University of Washington community⁶; and

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79 THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to University of Washington President Ana Mari
80 Cauce, Graduate and Professional Student Senate President Alex Bolton, Associated Students of
81 the University of Washington President Tyler Wu, *Daily* Editor-in-Chief Kathryn Altena, and
82 other recipients deemed appropriate by these recipients (at their request).

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84 *Presented to GPSS for approval on December 2, 2015*

85 *Approved on December 2, 2015*

⁶ Suggestions for additional action on the part of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate include resolutions encouraging the improvement of access to “UW Alert” via text message, focus group-based research to determine the success of this resolution, and the development of interactive software for enhancing the informational delivery detailed within. **Other possibilities include forums and other communicative arenas for discussions on gun policy.**