

Title: **RESOLUTION REGARDING UW DIVESTMENT FROM LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND THE UW STUDENT MOVEMENT FOR BLACK LIVES**

Sponsored by: Meshell Sturgis, Danielle Brown, Aaron Yared, GPSS Executive Board
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Resolution Number: 01.20-21

WHEREAS, the recent and past police killings of **Black people, Native and Indigenous people, and other people of color** in the United States have created an environment of anxiety, mistrust, and outrage for people of color as well as for their allies; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on **Black, Native and Indigenous communities, and other communities of color**, including those at UW; and

WHEREAS, with the frequency of these incidents, UW communities of color have reported feelings of fear, despair, and vulnerability that come with experiencing continuous, historical racialized trauma; and

WHEREAS, the global Movement for Black Lives has given the UW community an invitation to uphold our values of justice, equity, and anti-racism; and

WHEREAS, there are existing racial inequities that persist within every level of UW's three campus learning environments and these racial inequities are an academic issue interfering with the mission of the University and its ability to transmit knowledge;

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

THAT, the Graduate & Professional Student Senate calls on the University to reconsider all ties with local law enforcement agencies such as Seattle, Bothell and Tacoma Police Departments by taking the following steps:

1. Commit to stop handing over people detained by UW Police Department to external law enforcement agencies.
2. Stop using SPD to respond to public safety needs, including referrals for welfare checks under the Safe Campus program.
3. Stop using local law enforcement for additional security for any events, including football games, concerts, and ceremonies.
4. Stop using the Bothell campus as a training location for local law enforcement agencies such as the Washington State Patrol, Seattle Police Department, University of Washington Police Department, and King County Sheriff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

THAT, the Graduate & Professional Student Senate calls on UW to reimagine a Safe Campus as follows:

1. Disarm the University of Washington Police Department.
2. Commit to creating novel approaches, not using law enforcement approaches, to respond to public safety needs, including referrals for welfare checks under the Safe Campus program; and responding to healthcare clinics, emergency department, and hospital situations, such as those involving sexual, domestic, or anti-youth violence.
3. Ban the use of police dogs, which many communities of color in the US associate with the terror of state violence.
4. Publicly commit to not hiring as University of Washington police officers any former police officers with disciplinary records.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

THAT, the Graduate & Professional Student Senate calls on UW to promote the well-being of Black students, faculty, and staff as follows:

1. Allocate funds to Black Registered Student Organizations and the American Ethnic Studies Department
2. Increase the diversity credit requirement for all undergraduate students and establish a major

in African Studies

3. Create a cross-departmental cluster hire of faculty committed to the Movement for Black lives and against police violence
4. Increase funding to Graduate Opportunities and Minority Achievement Program for Black, Indigenous, and Students of Color, with new funding streams specifically for the recruitment and retention of Black graduate students
5. Fund and expand mental health resources for UW students, with specific need to hiring therapists committed to the Movement for Black Lives
6. Remove statues of racist figures, in particular the statue of George Washington

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

THAT, the Graduate & Professional Student Senate will address issues of racial injustice during the 2020-2021 academic year; and

THAT, a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Board of Regents, University of Washington President Ana Mari Cauce, Provost Mark Richards, Vice President of Student Life Denzil Suite, UW Faculty Senate and ASUW Senate.

Presented to GPSS for approval on: October 14th, 2020

Approved on: October 14th, 2020