

Associated Students of Northern Michigan University

2.4. A resolution for the support of a gender inclusive housing policy at NMU.

Presented on 1/12/2015

Adopted on 1/26/2015

- Sponsor(s): President Kat Klawes
College of Business Representative Jess Gula;
General Studies Representative Shelia Williams
- Co-Sponsor(s): Director of External Affairs Mitchell Sevigny;
Chair of Academic Affairs Danielle Schafer
- Whereas, one of the missions of Northern Michigan University is to embrace diversity, while also displaying a commitment to social justice and creating an environment where all students are given equal opportunities to succeed¹; and
- Whereas, students are forced into uncomfortable and potentially dangerous housing situations due to being housed among a gender identity they may not or may no longer identify with; and
- Whereas, the current on-campus housing arrangements are based upon an outdated, gendered system; and
- Whereas, "the current policy is unethical as it forces students to out themselves to others"²; and
- Whereas, the implementation of gender inclusive housing policy would allow students to room together regardless of biological sex, gender, or gender identity; and
- Whereas, gender inclusive housing would help make the campus of Northern Michigan a safe place to live for students of all orientations and gender identities providing them with due rights; and
- Whereas, university housing with a roommate should be an option available to all, rather than just to those who fit norms of gender or sexual orientation; and
- Whereas, many universities like Grand Valley State University, Michigan Technological University, Michigan State University, All Ivy League

¹ Northern Michigan University. (2014, January 1). *Mission and Vision*. Retrieved from <http://www.nmu.edu/mission>

² OUTlook. (2014, December 9). Gender-Inclusive Housing. (K. Klawes, & S. Williams, Interviewers)

Universities, University of Texas, and many others have already taken appropriate steps to ensure the safety, comfort, and success of all students in housing situations³; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University formally advocate and endorse the implementation of gender inclusive housing; and

Resolved, that Housing and Residence Life and the community of Northern Michigan University should collectively develop and institute a form of gender inclusive housing as an option for all students; and

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution will be presented to the Board of Trustees on February 13th, 2015, and sent to the Director of Housing and Residence Life Gary Bice, and any other appropriate administrators.

Katerina Klawes, President

Alex Hawke, Chair of the Assembly

³ Johnson, R. (2015). *Colleges With Gender Neutral Housing*. Retrieved from [gaylife.about.com](http://gaylife.about.com/od/gayteens/a/genderneutral.htm):
<http://gaylife.about.com/od/gayteens/a/genderneutral.htm>