

Class C Resolution Regarding an Advisory Body for UW Safety and Policing

WHEREAS, the recent and past police killings of Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) in the United States have created an environment of anxiety, mistrust, and outrage for the BIPOC community and its allies; and

WHEREAS, the frequency of police violence directed against Black Americans has caused feelings of fear, despair, and vulnerability that come with experiencing continuous, historical racialized trauma; and

WHEREAS, living in neighborhoods with high levels of invasive policing is associated with physiological effects and physical illness in BIPOC community members; and

WHEREAS, the national Movement for Black Lives has invited the UW community to uphold the values of justice, equity, and anti-racism; and

WHEREAS, racial inequities persist within every level of UW's tri-campus learning environment, and such inequities interfere with the academic mission of the University and its ability to disseminate knowledge; and

WHEREAS, the university's safety and policing organizations include the UW Police Department (UWPD) and SafeCampus in Seattle; UW Tacoma Campus Safety & Security; and the UW Bothell Campus Safety Department; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee in June 2020 passed a Class C Resolution calling on the university to divest from local law enforcement agencies, disarm the UWPD, and reimagine a safe campus; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Council on Multicultural Affairs (FCMA) held a summer 2020 tri-campus panel discussion on eliminating the role of law enforcement officers in the day-to-day experiences of students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, the FCMA and the Faculty Council on Student Affairs jointly hosted a spring 2021 tri-campus forum to explore the UW's progress in reimaging a safe campus and to consider next steps; and

WHEREAS, the university has taken positive and meaningful action to advance campus safety and security, and the Faculty Senate believes that further steps are needed to advance safety and to hear the voices of the community; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate calls on the university to create a campus safety and policing advisory body composed of faculty, students, staff, and members of the community at large. The advisory body, on behalf of the UW community and its neighbors, shall meet on a regular basis and provide advice to the president and leaders of campus safety and policing organizations on areas such as:

1. The accountability of the campus safety and policing organizations, including the review of actions taken in cases of alleged misconduct.
2. Cooperation or coordination of the campus safety and policing organizations with the FBI and other law enforcement agencies.
3. The regularly scheduled union contract negotiation process.
4. Hiring the leaders of the campus safety and policing organizations.
5. The jurisdiction of the campus safety and policing organizations.
6. The reduction of armed police in the UWPD and redirection of funds to health and wellness.
7. The increased responsibility of SafeCampus for wellness checks, victims' advocates, and other aspects of campus safety, including the response to sexual assaults.

8. Creative ways of improving campus safety.
9. Transparency and streamlined communication with all stakeholders, including the timely release of information legitimately requested by members of the public.
10. Any other issues that pertain to the role of the campus safety and policing organizations in the wellness of the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate will continue to address issues of racial injustice during the 2021-2022 academic year.

Approved by:
Senate Executive Committee
May 3, 2021

Approved by:
Faculty Senate
May 13, 2021