



The State University of New York  
Student Assembly

**Resolution 1516-111**  
Brockport Student Government

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**RESOLUTION 1516-111**

**TO: The Student Assembly of the State University of New York**  
**FROM: Brockport Student Government**  
**DATE: Friday, March 25th, 2016**  
**SUBJECT: Resolution for Gender Inclusive SUNY Applications**

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**Action Requested**

Student Assembly of the State University of New York request of the SUNY Applications Services Center, graduate divisions of SUNY member institutions, and admissions divisions of SUNY member institutions to initiate and undertake gender inclusive reform to graduate and undergraduate applications of the State University of New York.

**Resolution**

Brockport Student Government recommend that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA) adopt the following resolution:

Whereas All State Univeristy of New York (SUNY) undergraduate institutions share an application administered by the SUNY Applications Services Center; and

Whereas SUNY member institutions may also accept applications via Common Applications managed by The Common Application, Inc.; and

Whereas the Graduate Schools of SUNY member institutions create applications independent of SUNY oversight; and

Whereas in accordance with federal reporting standards, *gender* is a required field on applications of all SUNY graduate and undergraduate member institutions; and

Whereas the required “gender” field adheres to the discriminatory gender binary with “male” and “female” being the only available responses; and

Whereas the State University of New York has approximately 460,000 students that represent diverse backgrounds; and

Whereas on September 10, 2015, the SUNY Board of Trustees resolved that “SUNY aspires to be the most inclusive State university system in the country;” and

Whereas SUNY has “defined diversity broadly to include race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and expression, age, socioeconomic status, status as a veteran, status as an individual with a disability, students undergoing transition (such as transfer, stop-out, international student acclimation), and first-generation students;” and

Whereas the amendments of Section V. C. of the Civil Rights Act grants all students equal opportunity of education and therein the services granted to all other students, including identification, housing and bathroom access, and protection from sexual violence and gender-based discrimination; and

Whereas the SUNY Student Assembly, at its conference in the fall of 2015, called upon SUNY to “transition its policies and institution technology... to allow the use of a student’s... preferred pronoun;” and

Whereas the University Faculty Senate has recommended to SUNY and its member institutions “that they create gender inclusive spaces on all campuses and at System Administration where there are currently only male and female designated spaces;” and

Whereas the University Faculty Senate has recommended that SUNY System Administration require a SUNY-wide implementation of preferred name and gender identity policies and processes so that all faculty, staff, and students can equitably represent themselves on our campuses with their preferred names;

Whereas by Document Number 6502 of the SUNY Board of Trustees, “It is the policy of the State University of New York (University) that no discrimination against or harassment of individuals will occur on any of the campuses or in the programs or activities of the University;” and

Whereas “Attitudes, practices, and preferences of individuals that are essentially personal in nature, such as private expression or sexual orientation, are unrelated to performance and provide no basis for judgment;” and

Whereas “All University campuses are expected to take appropriate action to implement this policy of fair treatment;” and

Whereas being able to use one’s preferred gender is a reasonable accommodation that enhances our cultural climate and acts as a mechanism for inclusion and creates a welcoming environment; and

Whereas the current practice of SUNY and SUNY member institutions regarding the reporting of gender on undergraduate and graduate applications with required adherence to gender binary discriminates against an overwhelming population; therefore let it be

Resolved that Student Assembly of the State University of New York calls upon the SUNY Application Services Center to undertake gender inclusive reform to the SUNY undergraduate application; and let it be further

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York calls upon the graduate divisions of SUNY member institutions to implement gender inclusive reform to their respective graduate applications; and let it be further

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York calls upon the admissions divisions of SUNY member institutions to call upon The Common Application, Inc. to include gender inclusive options in Common Applications; and let it be further

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York will forward copies of this resolution to the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, SUNY Director of Application Services Gulliver, Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Marthers, SUNY Provost Dr. Cartwright, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, the graduate divisions of SUNY member institutions, the admissions divisions of SUNY member institutions, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.