University of New Mexico Graduate and Professional Association
Student Veteran Resolution
F19-003

Whereas: The Graduate and Professional Student Association are the representative and student voice for graduate students at the university.

Whereas: The Student Governing bodies of the University of New Mexico were established to represent student concerns in all University wide matters.

Whereas: The Student Veterans of the University of New Mexico are the advocates for the student veteran community on campus.

Whereas: The student veteran population at University of New Mexico is comprised of self-identified 858 utilizing the Veteran Resource Center services. 1200 self-identified on the Enrollment Management banner system.

Whereas: The Student Veteran graduation rate 8.5% is well below the 30% graduation rate of the rest of the university student population.

Whereas: The Student Veteran of the University of New Mexico leadership team have written the top Research and Public Service Proposal: Veteran Student Services.

Therefore: The administration has decided to take the student voice out of the Research and Public Service Proposal and reassign it to the Veteran Resource Center.

Whereas: Currently the Research and Public Service Proposal is under review with the New Mexico Higher Education Department waiting for approval during the 2019 NM Legislative session.

Therefore: The Student Veterans of the University of New Mexico authors and initiation of this Research and Public Service Proposal was to promote collaboration between the students and administration to ensure diversity and inclusion for our protected class per the Office of Equal Opportunity.

Therefore: This decision by the University of New Mexico administration took away the opportunity for student veterans to advocate, engage and educate our legislators about our student veteran community at the University of New Mexico.

Therefore: We are asking the Graduate and Professional Student Association to represent and support student veterans in their desire to be a part of the implementation process of the Veteran Student Services program upon approval from the New Mexico State Government in 2019; from here onto the future.

Therefore: We, Student Veterans of the University of New Mexico, are asking for the Graduate and Professional Student Association to represent our interests in the implementation of the Veteran Student Services program in collaboration with the Associated Student of the University of New Mexico and University of New Mexico administration.

Therefore: Be it resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association represents and supports the Student Veterans of the University of New Mexico and their families in their pathways to their degrees.

Therefore: Be it also resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association represents student veterans and other student groups in calling upon the University of New Mexico administration, the Veteran
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Resource Center and New Mexico governing officials to open dialogue and stand strong in unity with the student veteran community.

Therefore: Be it also resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association recognizes that the student veteran community is not equally treated culturally or structurally as other cultural groups; student veterans do not have either our own cultural center on par with El Centro de La Raza and others.

Therefore: Let it be further resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association represents and supports the Student Veterans and other student groups in generating collaboration that facilitates the transition process of all student veterans into our local and the University of New Mexico community.

Therefore: Let it be resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association calls upon the University of New Mexico President, Provost, Faculty, Staff, Veteran Resource Center and New Mexico governing officials to stand with our student veterans and not silence their voice in administrative process and stop the alienation of this community.

Therefore: Let it further be resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association in collaboration with the Diversity and Inclusion committee to work with actual student veterans to create administrative relief of the barriers that student veterans encounter.

Now therefore, let it be finally resolved that the Graduate and Professional Student Association represents, stands with, and supports the Student Veterans of University of New Mexico and other student groups who will be forwarded a copy of this resolution. A signature of receipt of this resolution must be provided to the Student Veteran of the University of New Mexico President and/or leadership team. These groups include the University of New Mexico Presidents Office, the University of New Mexico Board of Regents, the University of New Mexico Provost Office, the University of New Mexico Student Affairs, the University of New Mexico Dean of Students Office, the University of New Mexico Diversity and Inclusion Office, the University of New Mexico Governmental Affairs, the University of New Mexico Office of Equal Opportunity, New Mexico Governors, New Mexico Congressional Offices, New Mexico state and local representatives’ offices, Albuquerque’s Mayors Office and the local Department of Veteran Affairs Office.

Signed at the GPSA Counsel Meeting, This ___________ day of ___________, __________.

Witness my hand:

_______________________________
James Kaminski
GPSA Counsel Chair

_______________________________
Boney Mutabazi
GPSA President