




OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Telephone: 270.745.4346
Facsimile: 270.745.4492

June 12, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Kate Hudepohl
FROM: Gary A. Ransdell 
SUBJECT: Resolution 2017-05-13

Attached is the statement I issued following the SGA Resolution in this regard. It should suffice for the Senate resolution as well.

I feel the need to point out that paragraph four in this resolution competes with Senate Resolution #2017-05-09, which clearly suggests that salaries be the priority in coming budgets. With limited funds, there must be choices among important and desirable uses of funds.

GAR:ttc

Attachment

xc: Dr. Tim Caboni
Mr. Brian Kuster
Ms. Ann Mead
Ms. Robbin Taylor

STATEMENT FROM WKU PRESIDENT GARY A. RANDELL ON THE RECENT STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION

“Student success is an important ongoing discussion at Western Kentucky University, and the recruitment, persistence, and success of underrepresented minority students is a daily focus across this institution.”

“We appreciate the Student Government Association’s interest in these issues, but it’s important to clarify that their resolution is not an official position taken by the University. I have read the SGA resolution, and I understand that their intent was to spark a conversation, but the University will not adopt any such policy. I’ve spent much of the last year engaging in dialogue with black student leaders on campus, which has led to a greater understanding and appreciation of their experiences and priorities. Our goal is to ensure that WKU is both a welcoming place and a place that focuses on persistence and success.”

“As we continue to work through elements of the campus diversity plan and on our recruitment and student success initiatives, we will focus on those things that help all students succeed. We will direct resources, energy, and effort toward those methods that are responsible, practical, and proven to achieve student success, with a particular focus on underrepresented minorities, low-income, and first generation college students.”