

Rec. #2017-05-13 UNIVERSITY SENATE RECOMMENDATION TO THE PRESIDENT
University Senate Resolution (endorsed by a majority, with 3 nays and 3 abstentions on May 11,
2017):

University Senate Resolution in Support of WKU SGA Resolution 6-17-S: Resolution to Support Reparations

The University Senate strongly encourages the President to endorse this resolution and requests a response to the Senate on this matter by its next meeting.

University Senate Resolution in Support of WKU SGA Resolution 6-17-S:
Resolution to Support Reparations

Whereas, the University Senate agrees with the main assertions of SGA Resolution 6-17-S, namely that slavery is a stain on American heritage; that African-Americans are underrepresented in WKU's student body, faculty, staff, and administration; that high tuition, insufficient financial/scholarship aid, and a test-score achievement gap limits access of African-American students to WKU; that these disparities position WKU unfavorably in the new performance-based funding model;

Whereas, the University Senate has challenged resource allocation and administrative priorities at WKU through several resolutions during this academic year;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University Senate supports the spirit of SGA Resolution 6-17-S, Resolution to Support Reparations;

Be it further resolved that the University Senate calls for the implementation of a new strategic plan that includes specific measures and need-based funds to increase access to and academic success for African Americans and all other underrepresented groups at WKU, and;

Be it further resolved that the University Senate calls on incoming President Dr. Timothy Caboni to engage WKU faculty, staff, and students in meaningful conversation that includes all stakeholder groups to discuss how to equitably allocate financial resources for students and to wrestle with the legacy of discrimination in Kentucky and in America that created ongoing wealth disparities that negatively impact our campus community.