TITLE: A Resolution in Support of Indigenous Peoples’ Day

DATE OF INTRODUCTION: September 21, 2016

INTRODUCED BY: Ariel Amador, ASBSU Assembly member; Alejandra Mejia, ASBSU Assembly member, and Brooke Putra, Intertribal Native Council member.

I. Purpose

This resolution calls on Boise State University to observe and celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day in lieu of Columbus Day.

II. Rationale

WHEREAS, Boise State University should celebrate Indigenous People’s Day to honor the traditions and cultural heritage of the five federally recognized tribes that live in Idaho: the Coeur d’Alene, the Kootenai, the Nez Perce, Shoshone Bannock, Shoshone Paiute, and other Native-American tribes represented in Idaho.

WHEREAS, while it is known that many historical injustices to the North American indigenous peoples have occurred such as violent oppression and economic exploitation; efforts to honor indigenous people and all human rights are made in contemporary context.

WHEREAS, Celebrating this legacy of colonization and conquest dishonors the indigenous people of Idaho by eclipsing their status as the original inhabitants of this country and valorizing the traumatic impact of the arrival of Columbus. We want the BSU community to recognize indigenous peoples’ knowledge through science, philosophy, arts and culture.

WHEREAS, Boise State University shall continue to promote an inclusive and diverse campus, free of discrimination and injustice towards Indigenous Peoples. Thus, preventing a hindrance to the achievement and participation in educational opportunities by indigenous people on campus.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of Boise State University that Boise State University should observe and celebrate Indigenous People’s day in lieu of Columbus Day.

III. Provisions

A. This resolution will be delivered, post haste, by the ASBSU President and the Secretary of External Affairs to the people, and bodies, who are capable of making such a change.
B. The ASBSU President, and the Secretary of External Affairs, will work in concert with the other student government presidents, and relevant officers, from all other Idaho institutions of higher education to promote and encourage the passage of similar resolutions.

C. The provisions of this resolution will go into effect immediately.

  I. All Boise State University calendars and planners shall recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day in October.
  II. An email from the University President recognizing that Boise State University will no longer be Columbus Day; we shall recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day.
  III. Celebration of Indigenous Peoples’ Day on the Boise State University quad. This celebration could entail, but is not limited to; inviting the Tribes of Idaho to come explain the importance of the day to their Tribes and this University, inviting a drum group to play a commemorative honor song, the University President proclaiming Indigenous Peoples Day, handouts with information about Indigenous Peoples’ Day, etc.
  IV. This celebration shall continue throughout the years, not every year will look the same but the motive will be a celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day and Native awareness on the Boise State University campus.

D. The provisions of this resolution will go into effect in the future.

  I. Boise State shall hire a Tribal liaison position to reach out to more Native students to come to this campus.
  II. Native American Center for Native students on this campus.
  III. Dedicated scholarship for any Native student to apply for.
  IV. Commitment to diversify faculty and staff on this campus.

IV. Fiscal Impact

This resolution has, by its nature, no direct fiscal impact on the university.

TO BE COMMUNICATED TO:

University President, Dr. Bob Kustra; Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Leslie Webb; Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Jeremiah Shinn; Dean of Students, Dr. Chris Wuthrich; Director of Student Involvement and Leadership Center, Charlie Varland; Director for Student Diversity and Inclusion, Francisco Salinas; The Arbiter, Idaho Governor, C.L. “Butch” Otter; U.S. Senators Mike Crapo and Jim Risch, U.S. House Representatives Raul Labrador and Mike Simpson; The Idaho State Senate; The Idaho State House of Representatives; The Idaho Statesman, The Boise Weekly, The Spokesman Review: Eye on Boise

APPROVAL:

By the ASBSU Executive Council on (date) 10/3/16 by a vote of (in favor) 7 and (opposed) 0 and (abstaining) 1.

By the ASBSU Student Assembly on (date) 4/21/16 by a vote of (in favor) 25 and (opposed) 0 and (abstaining) 3.
By the ASBSU Vice President/Assembly Chair:

Jade Donnelly

Date: 10/3/16

By the ASBSU President:

Rebecca Kopp

Date: 10/3/16

1910 University Drive Boise, Idaho 83725-1335
Phone 208-426-4240  Fax 208-426-4649  www.asbsu.boisestate.edu