

**UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION # XXIII – M24
Motion on Indigenous Peoples' Day**

1. Motion presenter: William Woodward, on behalf of the Student Affairs Committee
2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion: 04/15/2019, 04/29/2019

3. Motion:

Whereas, Italian-Americans founded the Columbus Day holiday in San Francisco in 1869 as a celebration of their heritage and President Roosevelt later made it a national holiday in 1937; and

Whereas, scholars have since shown that Christopher Columbus engaged in atrocities inflicted on the indigenous peoples, described by himself and edited by Bartolomé de las Casas; and

Whereas, in 1977, the U.N.'s International Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Peoples recommended that Indigenous Peoples Day substitute for Columbus Day; and


Whereas, many states, including North Dakota (1990), Hawai'i, Minnesota, Oregon, South Dakota, New Mexico, Vermont, and Maine, have approved an Indigenous Peoples' Day to replace Columbus Day; and

Whereas, the Town of Durham and Oyster River Schools adopted Indigenous Peoples' Day in 2017 and 2018; and

Whereas, the following universities have already adopted Indigenous Peoples' Day: Metropolitan State University, Minnesota; Minnesota State University, Mankato; University of Utah; Brown University; North Carolina State University; Cornell University; and Harvard University; therefore, be it

Resolved: We propose that Columbus Day be renamed Indigenous Peoples' Day on the UNH Calendar and that it be observed on the second Monday in October. This would start in Fall 2019. Recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day does not require classes to be cancelled.

4. Senate action: The motion passed with 53 in favor, 1 opposed, and 8 abstentions.

5. 
Senate Chair, Robert S. Smith

Forwarded to the following on May 9, 2019:

President James Dean
Provost Wayne Jones
P.T. Vasudevan, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Monica Chiu, Interim Associate Vice President for Community, Equity and Diversity
Andy Colby, UNH Registrar
all deans
all department chairs