

Graduate Student Senate



Graduate Student Senate, UNH Graduate School
Thompson Hall, 105 Main Street, Durham, NH 03824
Email: Grad.Student.Senate@unh.edu

GSS Diversity and Inclusivity Committee, submitted the following resolution for the consideration of the Graduate Student Senate.

Resolution AY2019-2020.4, Concerning the Gender Question on Teaching Evaluations

WHEREAS, The Graduate Student Senate is comprised of both instructors and students, who support and expect a safe, inclusive learning and working environment for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, The recent Campus Climate Survey indicates that some students at the University of New Hampshire have a gender other than male or female;

WHEREAS, In teaching evaluations, students are required to disclose their gender identity as either female or male, and this binary designation fails to acknowledge all gender identities; and

WHEREAS, the Consortium of Higher Education LGBT Resource Professionals' Trans Policy Working Group recommends including an optional question on gender identity which allows students to self-identify their gender on forms; or where such an open-ended question is not possible, to present an inclusive list which recognizes the continuum of gender identities; and

WHEREAS, The Graduate student senate supports the resolution under review by The Student Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate (Resolution 39.17, Dec. 10, 2017), which requests that the binary question regarding sex (male/female) be changed to a gender-based question with additional gender identity options; and

WHEREAS, the binary question regarding sex (male/female) on the Graduate Student Application Form has already been modified to include a non-binary/third gender option in addition to "prefer not to say", a change that was supported by Monica Chiu, Interim Associate Vice President of Community, Equity, and Diversity, as well as Ted Kirkpatrick, Dean of Students, and Donna Marie Sorrentino, Affirmative Action

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Graduate Student Senate



Graduate Student Senate, UNH Graduate School
Thompson Hall, 105 Main Street, Durham, NH 03824
Email: Grad.Student.Senate@unh.edu

TO URGE, The University of New Hampshire to replace the multiple choice gender question with a fill-in box that students can use to type in their gender in the least restrictive manner,

TO URGE, The University of New Hampshire to collect information on gender identity for the sole purpose of generating statistics on student demographics, but not to disclose information on respondents' gender to instructors so as to protect student identity and privacy, which may be of particular concern in small classrooms or departments,

TO URGE, The University of New Hampshire to add a disclaimer on teaching evaluations indicating that gender information will not be revealed to instructors.

**This resolution was approved by the Graduate Student Senate on 12/10/2019.*

Graduate Student Senate President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Casey O'Heran".

Casey O'Heran