



**Resolution No. 1415-02**  
**A Resolution to Support Chancellor Loftin and Vice Chancellor Scroggs in Any  
Rightful Endeavor to Strengthen University of Missouri's Treatment of Sexual  
Assault Matters**

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE GATHERED THAT:

**WHEREAS,** the University of Missouri is charged with the responsibility to protect the safety, well-being, health, and dignity of its nearly thirty-five thousand students; and

**WHEREAS,** adherence to Title IX regulations has too often been inadequate and Clery reporting alone fails to be representative of the true prevalence of rape and sexual assault in our community, as such crimes continue to be the most underreported violent crimes in the country; and

**WHEREAS,** college-age victims of sexual violence are more likely to report the incident to a close friend or family member than to campus or other authorities, demonstrating that an adequate approach to sexual assault matters by the University of Missouri will need to extend into the wider Columbia community; and

**WHEREAS,** ample data, both external and internal to the University of Missouri, demonstrate an exceptionally strong correlation between alcohol consumption and the occurrence of sexual assault and rape within student populations; and

**WHEREAS,** intervention and prevention initiatives have proven to be more effective at addressing issues of rape and sexual assault on college campuses across the nation compared to current mandates, such as Clery reporting, alone; and

**WHEREAS,** despite their sheer moral import, sexual assault matters are too often ignored, mishandled, downplayed, brushed aside, or outright suppressed, sometimes even due to pressure from business interests and large-sum donors,

be it

**RESOLVED**, by majority vote of the General Assembly here gathered, that the Graduate Professional Council takes a unified stance calling for the University of Missouri administration to be just, expeditious, and transparent in their treatment of sexual assault matters; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Graduate Professional Council supports completely the university's current efforts toward bystander intervention initiatives, such as "Green Dot Mizzou," in an effort to provide all students with the skills and tools necessary to recognize situations that could lead to sexual violence; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Graduate Professional Council stands unanimously with Chancellor Loftin, with Vice Chancellor Scroggs, and with the university administration in any rightful endeavor that seeks to improve the University of Missouri's response to sexual assault matters and to thereby improve the University's discharging of its duty to protect the safety, well-being, health, and dignity of its nearly thirty-five thousand students; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Graduate Professional Council will work with the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, and university administration to change the culture of our campus from one bound by the unacceptable practice of closeting the issue of sexual assault to one that dutifully embraces fellowship, transparency and the University of Missouri's core values of responsibility and respect; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Graduate Professional Council expresses *in no uncertain terms* its vehement condemnation of any attempt by any individual, group of individuals, or organization to dissuade the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor, or the administration of the University of Missouri from rightfully improving the university's treatment of sexual assault matters.

**SUBMITTED**,

Mr. E. Alexander Howe      Jordan E. Hoyt

Treasurer of GPC

Co-Chair, Status of Women Committee