



**Resolution No. 1516-06**  
**A Resolution Expressing Solidarity with Social Justice**  
**Movements on Campus**

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE GATHERED THAT:

- WHEREAS,** students and student groups including the Student Coalition for Critical Action, Legion of Black Collegians, MU for Mike Brown, Black Lives Matter, Racism Lives Here, and #ConcernedStudent1950 continue to press the administration and the campus community to comprehensively and frankly address longstanding systemic and institutionalized racist and xenophobic issues on campus; and
- WHEREAS,** at a recent protest event during the MU Homecoming Parade targeting University of Missouri System President Tim Wolfe, video footage shows that the following events occurred: (i) President Tim Wolfe’s driver aggressively “revved” his engine at students standing in front of the vehicle, (ii) a protester was struck by President Tim Wolfe’s vehicle, (iii) the nearby crowd drowned out the voices of concerned students of color by using the “M-I-Z” chant, (iv) members of the crowd physically pushed protesters aside, (v) Columbia city police aggressively physically pushed protesters aside, and (vi) Columbia city police threatened the peaceful protesters with pepper spray; and
- WHEREAS,** UM System President Tim Wolfe failed to speak up or otherwise intervene during the above-listed events; and
- WHEREAS,** more than two weeks passed without a public statement being issued by UM System President Tim Wolfe; and
- WHEREAS,** as of 9am on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, MU graduate student Jonathan Butler of the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis (ELPA) department began a hunger strike in the face of UM System President Tim Wolfe's continued negligence towards the racism, homophobia, sexism, labor exploitation, and other issues at this university; and



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- WHEREAS** Mr. Butler’s hunger strike will not end until either UM System President Tim Wolfe is removed from office or Mr. Butler’s body fails; and
- WHEREAS** as of 6pm on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, a growing group of MU students identifying as #ConcernedStudent1950 have, in solidarity, begun camping on Carnahan Quad; and
- WHEREAS** the aforementioned students will remain on Carnahan Quad until UM System President Tim Wolfe resigns or is removed from office; and
- WHEREAS,** students recently marched and rallied to denounce Columbus Day and Columbus’ history of genocide, slavery, and rape, and to instead recognize and celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day; and
- WHEREAS,** students have committed to both the “Take Back the Night” and “It’s On Us” campaigns to end sexual assault and rape on college campuses; and
- WHEREAS,** students and community members recently rallied in support of Planned Parenthood and in opposition of the university’s decision to both cut ties with Planned Parenthood and to revoke “refer and follow” privileges at Planned Parenthood; and
- WHEREAS,** graduate student employees have become so concerned with their work conditions, which include short and unclear contracts, wage theft, chronically-low stipends, unrealistic numbers of hours, threatened health insurance, and threatened tuition waivers; and
- WHEREAS,** the work conditions of graduate student employees have become sufficiently bad so as to warrant the formation of rallies, walkouts, and a unionization drive; and
- WHEREAS,** graduate students and graduate student employees and professional students continue to struggle with the steady erosion of core services such as on-campus childcare and on-campus housing; and



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- WHEREAS,** in all of the instances listed above, responses from administration have been at worst nonexistent and at best reactionary; and
- WHEREAS,** such reactionary and temporary “fixes” are typically poorly-developed, typically poorly-integrated with existing programs and structures, and typically fail to receive sufficient resources necessary to be effective; and
- WHEREAS,** administrators have too often either turned the question around on students, asking students for how they think social justice issues should be solved; and
- WHEREAS,** administrators have too often organized “open forums” and “task forces” which not-infrequently draw attention away from the issues ostensibly being addressed and which do so under the guise of being a response to student concerns; and
- WHEREAS,** the above-mentioned methods seem to allow administrators to stall for time rather than performing the duties that tuition-paying students expect from them in accordance with both their salaries and job titles, which includes making clear and public steps towards addressing the problems; and
- WHEREAS,** students, staff, faculty, and community members from all marginalized communities and not just the ones addressed in this resolution, including but not limited to those individuals in the LGBTQ+ community and those individuals with physical and/or cognitive disabilities and individuals of color and individuals of other faith systems and women, continue to face hatred in speech, in behavior, and in our very infrastructure; be it
- RESOLVED,** that the Graduate Professional Council stands in solidarity with those Mizzou community members and student organizations who are fighting for the collective social justice movement; and be it also



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**RESOLVED**, that the Graduate Professional Council expects the administration at Mizzou to develop appropriate, adequately-supported solutions to the social justice concerns being voiced by the student bodies, and to do so without passing undue burdens onto student activists or student leaders

**SUBMITTED,**

Mr. E. Alexander Howe  
Treasurer