A resolution of the Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) calling for action to support Native American students

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Co-Sponsor:
Duke chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)

Recognizing, the August 27, 2021 article in the Duke Chronicle written by the Duke Native American Students Associations [NASA] called “The Urgency of Now: Duke must take action to support Native American students”.i

Recognizing previous Chronicle articles documenting the experiences of Native American students at Duke, including “Duke must do more for Native students” on August 16, 2019. ii

Now, therefore be it resolved by the GPSG that the graduate and professional student body of Duke University:

Reiterates, the requests of the August 27, 2021 article in the Duke Chronicle, “The Urgency of Now: Duke must take action to support Native American students”.

Calls, for the expansion of the requests to include Duke’s graduate and professional schools, as hereafter follows:

Requests, “Deans, Directors of Undergraduate Studies [Directors of Graduate Studies] and the Native American Cluster Hire Committees include Native Students in the hiring of senior Indigenous faculty who can support our organization's [Native American Student Alliance] goals.” 1

Requests, “President Vincent E. Price, Provost Sally Kornbluth and the Dean of Trinity College [and the Deans of the Graduate and Professional Schools] work to establish a Native Studies program with Native student, faculty, and staff involvement.”i

Requests, “Vice President/Vice Provost of Student Affairs Mary Pat McMahon, and Student Affairs leaders create a Native American Center with Native student, faculty and staff involvement. And that in the meantime, Duke Student Affairs hire a Native American Assistant Director in the Center for Multicultural Affairs with Native student input.”i
Requests, “The Deans of Duke University and the Office for Institutional Equity adopt a land acknowledgment, currently being drafted by NASA students and a Land Acknowledgement Committee, and distribute it to faculty for class syllabi.”

Requests, “The Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education [and the Deans of the Graduate and Professional Schools] meet with NASA to discuss academic scholarships for Indigenous students as reparations for the Trinity College Cherokee Industrial School.”

Requests, “The President’s Office and the Office of the University Secretary meet with NASA to discuss including Native alumni on the Board of Trustees and the creation of a Native & Indigenous President’s Council.”

Requests, “The Office of Undergraduate Admissions [and all Graduate and Professional admissions offices] take action to recruit and retain more Native American students with Native student, faculty and staff involvement. The OUA [and all Graduate and Professional admissions offices] establish a college [and graduate] preparedness program on the Qualla Boundary in Cherokee, NC in collaboration with the EBCI Higher Education and Training department as reparations for the Trinity College Cherokee Industrial School.”

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i https://www.dukechronicle.com/article/2021/08/08292021-nasa

ii https://www.dukechronicle.com/article/2019/01/duke-university-must-do-more-for-native-students