

FACULTY STATUS AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

***Resolution to Support the Recommendations of the
Provost's Ad Hoc Committee on Gay, Lesbian,
Bisexual and Transgender Issues***

WHEREAS Provost and Vice Chancellor John M. Dunn established the Provost's Ad Hoc Committee on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Issues in October 2004 in response to a request by the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University; and

WHEREAS the Ad Hoc Committee consisted of 18 individuals representing a broad spectrum of the University, including the Faculty and Faculty Senate; and

WHEREAS the Ad Hoc Committee was charged with eight responsibilities, which included reviewing campus safety and the handling of hate crimes and other forms of harassment directed toward the GLBT population, reviewing University policies and assessing their effectiveness in supporting the needs and concerns of GLBT members, reviewing curricular issues and academic programs that impact, effect or contribute to an understanding of sexual orientation, and developing recommendations; and

WHEREAS the Ad Hoc Committee completed and submitted a report in August 2005 that contained specific recommendations to the Provost for implementation, and these recommendations called for, among other items, hiring a full time staff person with sufficient resources within the Office of the Associate Chancellor for Diversity, along with establishing a standing advisory committee to address GLBT issues concerning campus awareness and education, benefits and services, employment, and university housing; adding resources to promote an anti-bias campaign; institutionalizing the Safe Zone training under the auspices of the Associate Chancellor for Diversity; installing, when possible, single stall gender-neutral bathrooms for the safety of transgender individuals; creating an interdisciplinary center for the academic study of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, which would be directed by a senior faculty member who had been given appropriate release time; creating an official course of study in gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues, and that the University provide faculty release time and other resources to departments, programs and students in ways that support the required curricular transformation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate supports the recommendations made by the Provost's Ad Hoc Committee on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Issues, and urges that they be implemented as soon as is practicable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate requests that it receive annual reports from the Provost's Office regarding the status of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Provost's Ad Hoc Committee Report.