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### UNH FACULTY SENATE Motion # XXVI – M2 to endorse the Agenda Committee report and recommendations on a General Education Diversity Requirement

Faculty Senate

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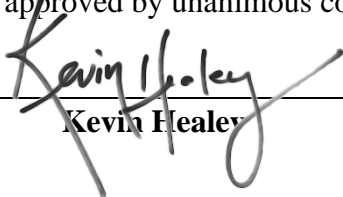
**UNH FACULTY SENATE**  
**Motion # XXVI – M2**  
**to endorse the Agenda Committee report and recommendations**  
**on a General Education Diversity Requirement**

1. **Motion presenter:** Kevin Healey, on behalf of the Agenda Committee
2. **Dates of Faculty Senate Discussion:** 08/30/21
3. **Motion:** The Faculty Senate endorses the Agenda Committee report and recommendations for the membership parameters of an ad hoc committee on the General Education Diversity Requirement (see Appendix), with the addition of an expert in the field of disability studies in the membership parameters.

The Senate stipulates that the Agenda Committee will report back to the full Senate immediately after its scheduled meeting with Nadine Petty for September 9, 2021 [on issues related to NH HB2]

4. **Senate action:** The motion was approved by unanimous consent on August 30.

5. **Senate chair's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

  
Kevin Healey

Forwarded to the following on 09/30/21:

President James Dean  
Wayne Jones, Provost  
Kate Ziemer, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs  
All deans and associate deans  
All department chairs  
Nadine Petty, Chief Diversity Officer  
Nicky Gullace, Faculty Director, Discovery Program

**Appendix**

UNH Faculty Senate Agenda Committee Report and Recommendation  
on the Formation of the General Education Diversity Requirement Ad Hoc Committee

August 26, 2021

Background

On May 3, 2021, the [Faculty Senate passed a motion supporting the formation of a new ad hoc committee to develop the framework, objectives, and student learning outcomes for a diversity requirement in UNH's general education curriculum.](#) The motion instructs the Agenda Committee to draft the parameters for committee membership, committee charges, and timeline and to share these with the Senate for approval. To this end, Agenda Committee members met and/or consulted with Provost Wayne Jones, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Kate Ziemer, Chief Diversity Officer Nadine Petty, and other relevant administrators.

In June 2021, NH Governor Sununu signed into law [NH HB2](#), which includes specific language prohibiting state employers, including quasi-public entities, and their employees from teaching or advocating certain ideas about race, creed, color, and other social categories. Notwithstanding the legislation’s provision claiming to protect “the academic freedom of faculty members of the university system of New Hampshire and the community college system of New Hampshire” (see HB2 354-A:29.III), faculty members have continued to raise questions and concerns about the potential impact that this legislation may have on the ability of UNH faculty (especially junior, non-tenure track, and minoritized faculty) to teach and conduct research without restraint or fear of undue interference or retribution.

Given these concerns, the Agenda Committee will limit its current recommendations to the membership parameters of the ad hoc committee. The Agenda Committee will continue to work with Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) Nadine Petty and Provost Wayne Jones to clarify the potential impacts of HB2 and the university’s strategies for addressing and mitigating such impacts. The Agenda Committee will also advocate for clear guidance from the administration on the meaning of HB2 for faculty, staff, and students. Senate leadership will consult with and provide updates to the Senate on the status of discussions with the administration, and at such time as it deems appropriate will share the charges and timelines for the new ad hoc committee with the Senate for approval.

#### Recommendations for parameters of membership

The Agenda Committee recommends that membership of the General Education Diversity Requirement Ad Hoc Committee include, to the extent possible, the following with due recognition of the overlapping nature of the categories:

1. Representation across categories of gender, ethnicity, career stage (junior to senior), and appointment type (lecturer, TT, Clinical), as is feasible.
2. Faculty from all undergraduate degree-granting colleges, as well as the Library.
3. Faculty from relevant stakeholder groups, including college DEI working groups.
4. Faculty or staff with relevant disciplinary and/or professional expertise.
5. At least one undergraduate student representative.
6. Adequate representation of Faculty Senators.
7. Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Kate Ziemer or designee (in a non-voting role)
8. Chief Diversity Officer Nadine Petty (in a non-voting role)

Note: The ad hoc committee should consult with any and all constituencies who may be affected or have specialized expertise (e.g., Beauregard Center, Student Affairs, etc.).