

A Resolution to Examine the Possibility of Gender-Neutral Housing at the University of Oklahoma

Whereas, there are students living on campus who are put into uncomfortable and potentially dangerous situations due to the reinforced gendered stereotypes perpetuated by a binary being housed among a gender they may not or may no longer identify with; and

Whereas, addressing potential threats to the safety of students living in housing ought to be a priority for the University; and

Whereas, anticipating and meeting the needs of minority students shows a university to be sensitive and progressive and adds to the University's prestige; and

Whereas, the University's current policy of gendered floors in University Housing assumes heterosexuality is universal, a false assumption which overlooks the existence and needs of a large minority of the student population; and

Whereas, the policy of the segregation of the sexes in on-campus housing is lacking in progressiveness compared to Ivy League colleges, the University of Texas, Texas Christian University, and other competitors of the university, which have gender-integrated hallways or even gender-blind room assignments as options; and

Whereas, single-occupancy rooms, currently the only on-campus option for non-normatively gendered students, cost much more than others, imposing a discriminatory financial burden on these students; and

Whereas, comfortable and affordable university housing with a roommate should be an option available to all, rather than just to those who fit norms of gender or sexual orientation; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That OU Housing and Food Services institute a form of gender-blind/gender-neutral housing as an option for all students.