



SGA
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
of UAW-STEVENS POINT

LEGISLATIVE COVER SHEET

Statute for Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement
Legislative Title

Inclusivity Committee

Sponsoring Committee

Summary: New ~~to~~ revised Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement worked on by vice president Authement and the NAC.

Bill Number:

Author: Vice President Authement
AIRO

Date Presented: 2/1/2024

AISES
Date of Action: 2/8/2024

Sponsoring Committee

3 / 0 / 1
Y / N / A

[Signature]
Chair's Signature

Rules Committee

/ /
Y / N / A

Chair's Signature

General Assembly

/ /
Y / N / A

Chair's Signature

Constitution Review Committee

If the legislation is a bylaw amendment or constitutional amendment, it must pass through Constitution Review Committee

— / — / —
Y / N / A

Chair's Signature

Presidential Signature | Date

If applicable, veto override: /
Y / N

APPROVED

VETOED
Attach Explanation

Speaker of the Senate signature, if applicable | Date

Statute for Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement

Whereas, Indigenous land acknowledgement is an effort to recognize the Indigenous past, present, and future of a particular location and to understand one's own place in that relationship;

Whereas, Evaluation of the previous land recognition statement revealed areas that could be strengthened including inclusion of accurate historical context, connection of past, present, and future, as well as dedication to continued support of Indigenous people;

Whereas, The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) Native American Center (NAC) and Student Government Association (SGA) collaborated to create a new statement to be read aloud at the starts of all UWSP SGA officially sponsored events;

Whereas, This statement is as follows:

With profound reflection, we acknowledge that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point exists upon land inhabited by the indigenous people of this area, including but not limited to, the Menominee, Ho-Chunk, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and the many other nations and groups that predate colonial borders.

While this state institution has a rich history of its own, for countless generations, these lands were home to this diverse group of Native American people. Beginning with colonization and continuing for centuries, Native American people were forcibly removed from their home to unfamiliar and inhospitable lands. This brought sickness, trauma, and loss in many forms, including the mass grave site of indigenous people that our campus sits upon. In reverence to the truth, we acknowledge this occurred.

We recognize the responsibility of the university to support Native people, communities—and world views—so all might benefit from their teachings and hard-fought lessons. We also recognize that the generations of Native American communities, their cultures, and their knowledge systems shaped the land in a sustainable way that allows us to continue to enjoy its gifts today. For this, we are truly grateful.

Together we hope to find ways to move forward while acknowledging and respecting this history. Although words cannot convey the weight of the injustices wrought upon all indigenous peoples of Turtle Island, the proof of their resilience is brought into the light by the knowledge that they have been, are, and always will be a part of this institution and the land we live on. In partnership with the Native American Center, we explore durable ways of recognizing, supporting, and advocating for the sovereignty of all tribal nations and their citizens. We commit to work together to honor the past, be intentional in the present, and to build our future with truth.

37 **Whereas,** This statement would reaffirm UWSP's commitment to diversity and inclusion;

38 **Therefore, it be Resolved,** UWSP SGA adopts the above statement;

39 **Therefore, be it Further Resolved,** At the beginning of each SGA hosted event, defined as SGA
40 General Assembly meetings, SGA committee meetings, and SGA officially sponsored events, the
41 above statement be read;

42 **Therefore, be it Further Resolved,** UWSP SGA highly recommends the above statement be
43 read before Common Council meetings, large campus programs, and be considered for
44 implementation at other gatherings;

45 **Therefore, be it Further Resolved,** UWSP SGA supports the Native American Center, the
46 proposed statement, and all indigenous students;

47 **Therefore, be it Further Resolved,** UWSP SGA will continue to explore avenues for the
48 amplification of Indigenous voices, education of the shared history, and establishment of
49 permanent resources for Indigenous students;

50 **Therefore, be it Finally Resolved,** Upon approval, this statute will be sent to Chancellor
51 Thomas Gibson, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Senior Diversity Officer Al Thompson,
52 Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs La Vonne Cornell-Swanson, Vice Chancellor
53 for Business Affairs Pratima Gandhi, Chief of Staff Rob Manzke, Dean of Students Troy
54 Seppelt, College of Natural Resources Dean Brian Sloss, College of Fine Arts and
55 Communication Dean Valarie Cisler, College of Letters and Science Dean Joshua Hagen,
56 University College Dean Gretel Stock, SGA President Benjamin Koenig, SGA Vice President
57 Ashley Authement, SGA Speaker of the Senate Matthew Rogers, SGA Head Justice Mason
58 Garrigan, SGA Executive Director Amber Cronce, SGA Advisor Julie Zsido, Native American
59 Center Coordinator Rachel Davis, Diversity and College Access Director Samantha Samreth,
60 Queer Resource Center Coordinator Xōchipilli Bustamante, Equity, Diversity, and Equity,
61 Diversity, and Inclusivity Policy Committee Chair Rayvn Knipple, Common Council Chair
62 Kristi Roth, Center for Inclusive Teaching and Learning Director Erin Speetzen, American
63 Indians Reaching for Opportunities President Jack Manzer, Athletic Director Brad Duckworth,
64 Director of Admissions & Recruitment Justin Willis, Director of Housing and Residence Life
65 Brian Faust, University Centers Director Missy Burgess, CASE Associate Director Michele
66 Miller, CASE Administrative Assistant Chris Rozek, CASE Student Engagement Program
67 Manager Missy Habberley, School of Education Faculty Member Marcus Lewis, Residential
68 Hall Association President Delilah Daraskevich.

69 **Author(s):** Former Inclusivity Director Chloë Gulbranson, Vice President Ashley Authement,
70 American Indians Reaching for Opportunities (AIRO), American Indian Science and
71 Engineering Society (AISES)

72 **Sponsors:** Senator Sadie Perez, Senator MaKayla Galecki

73 **Sponsoring Committee:** Inclusivity Committee

74 **Date:** 2/8/2024