



SGA

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
of UW-STEVENS POINT

LEGISLATIVE COVER SHEET

Statute in Support of Reforming the Hate and Bias Response Team

Legislative Title

Legislative Affairs Committee

Sponsoring Committee

Summary:

This statute calls for reform of the hate and bias response team to include students as members on the team and reports be published up to 10 years.
for

Bill Number:

Author:

*Leo Angel Rivas - Puchaco,
Wahneema Lubiano A. Adjadi, Soban Russi -
Amador*

Date Presented:

2/29/2024

Date of Action:

03/29/2024

Sponsoring Committee

5 / 0 / 0
Y N A

Leo A. Rivas
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



1 **Statute in Support of Reforming the Hate and Bias Response Team**

2
3 **Whereas:** UW-Eau Claire currently has policy and procedure in place regarding hate and bias
4 incident response that prioritizes transparency, accessibility, and inclusivity. With this system
5 UW-Eau Claire has set a precedent and created a playbook for all UW System universities to
6 follow when making reforms to their hate/bias incident response protocols.

7 **Whereas:** UWSP students have testified and expressed their frustration and dissatisfaction with
8 the current hate/bias incident response process and have shared their own experiences with hate
9 and bias incidents occurring on campus and the greater UW system community.

10 **Whereas:** Students have had slurs said to them on campus and written on their whiteboards on
11 their bedroom door. Students have made attempts to report racial bias incidents through proper
12 channels and been told that nothing could be done.

13 **Whereas:** Resident Assistants have testified that necessary resources for residence hall safety
14 weren't met until the submission of 2 hate/bias reports were made within 24 hours, furthermore,
15 the follow up after the report was "lackluster".

16 **Whereas:** The presence of DEI in the UW System is under threat by the state legislature as the
17 Board of Regents recently approved a proposal to "freeze" DEI in UW schools.

18
19 **Whereas:** Studies conducted by the US Department of Education show that in 2021, 5% of
20 reported crimes at colleges were hate crimes with race accounting for 24%, sexual orientation
21 accounting for 9% and religion accounting for 7%.

22
23 **Therefore, Be It Resolved:** The University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Student Government
24 Association recognizes the importance of having a smooth, transparent, and personal hate and
25 bias reporting process for students in the UWSP community.

26
27 **Therefore, Be It Further Resolved:** The University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Student
28 Government Association is in support of reforming the current Hate and Bias incident reporting
29 process and response protocol; in conjunction with UWSP LIT and the larger multicultural
30 student community, Stevens Point Student Government Association requests that the following
31 five core elements be implemented at UWSP:

- 32 1. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, incident reports submitted in previous years are
33 publicly available on the University website for up to 10 years; starting with data from
34 2018 marking the creation of the existing HBRT team.

35 2.



- 36 3. A minimum of 2 current full-time students on the campus hate/bias response team and
37 both must hold equal voting power to fellow members
- 38 4. The campus hate/bias response team must be made up of staff, faculty, and students that
39 have relevant and meaningful experience in working with underrepresented student
40 groups and/or with folks that have experienced identity-based traumas.
- 41 5. A clear and accessible step-by-step outline of the campus hate/bias response process that
42 can be found in one place on the university website. A printed QR code with the link to
43 this page must be displayed in at least one high-traffic location in every building on
44 campus.
- 45 6. The HBRT responds to each report within 48 hours with a personalized letter to the
46 reporter that includes:
- 47 a. A list of financially and culturally accessible campus and community resources
- 48 b. A response timeline - when the team will meet to discuss the report and create an
49 action plan
- 50 c. A point of contact on the team to reach out to with any needs, questions, or
51 concerns throughout the process.
- 52

53 **Therefore, Be it Finally Resolved:** That upon passage of this statute, it shall be sent to
54 Chancellor Gibson, Vice Chancellor Al Thompson, Chief of Staff Rob Manzke, Dean of
55 Students Troy Seppelt, Diversity and College Access Director Samantha Samreth, Professor of
56 Natural Resources Katherine Clancy, Professor of Sociology and Criminology Dorothy De Boer,
57 Housing Assignments Coordinator/Office Manager Taylor Hanson, Assistant Dean of Students
58 Brittany Kalish, Director of the Tutoring-Learning Center Trisha Lamers, Human Resources
59 Director and Affirmative Action Officer Eric Roesler, and Associate Professor Health Promotion
60 and Wellness Kelly Schoonaert.

61

62 **Author:** Leo Angel Rivera-Pacheco, Viviane A. Adjadi, Sofia Russi-Amador

63 **Sponsors:** Elliot Fey, Kalli Mikkonen

64 **Sponsoring Committee:** Legislative Affairs Committee