

April 17, 2002

56 Legislative Council Bill #5

University of Colorado Student Union

Sponsored by: Michael-Scott Heberling College of Music Senator
Juana Rosa Caverio Representative at Large

Authored by: Diversity Commission

A Bill

Bill History

Absolute diversity is indefinable. The Diversity Commission has come to the conclusion that diversity must be defined within specific contexts. The Diversity Commission has sought input from all interested student groups when drafting this bill.

Bill Summary

University of Colorado at Boulder Student Union Definition of Diversity in the context of historically under represented students: UCSU recognizes diversity as a multitude of ideologies, perspectives and backgrounds. Diversity celebrates both individual and group differences, which include, but are not limited to: ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, race, economic background, nationality, sex, heritage, disability, and religion. University of Colorado Student Union Diversity Policy: The University of Colorado at Boulder Student Union is dedicated to building and maintaining a population of students, faculty and staff, in which diversity is integral, essential and valued. Diversity is a natural and enriching characteristic of life, which is necessary to sustain a nurturing academic environment.

Ethnicity:

Is a classification or affiliation based on a social construct. Characteristics such as a shared sense of group membership, values, behavioral patterns, language, political and economic interests, history, and ancestral geographical base or other non-biological characteristics which can change over time. This is also an identity associated with a group of people based on common backgrounds.

Age:

The length of time that one has existed; duration of life

Gender:

A socially constructed psychological trait typically, but not always associated with sex. Gender can be viewed as a spectrum rather than polar.

Sexual Orientation:

The way one defines their natural sexual attraction in relation to gender and sex.

Sex:

The property or quality by which people are classified as female, male or intersex on the basis of their physical characteristics.

Race:

A social construct that artificially divides people into distinct groups based on characteristics such as physical appearance (particularly color), ancestral heritage, cultural affiliation, cultural history, ethnic classification, and the social, economic, and political needs of a society at a given period of time. Racial categories subsume ethnic groups.

Economic Background:

Past and/or current financial status.

Nationality:

Past and /or present citizenship(s). The status of belonging to a particular nation or state by origin or naturalization. A people having common origins or traditions and often constituting a nation. Existence as a politically autonomous entity; national independence.

Ideologies:

The body of ideas reflecting the social needs and aspirations of an individual, group, class, or culture or a set of doctrines or beliefs that form the basis of a political, economic, or other system.

Heritage:

An inherited identity. Something that is passed down from preceding generations; a tradition.

Disability:

An individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; a person who has a history of record of such an impairment; or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment.

Religion:

A system of beliefs, which often involves a code of ethics and a philosophy of life, and knowledge of a spiritual realm of another form of existence.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Union, THAT:

Section 1: UCSU Proper's definition of diversity is defined in the context of historically under represented students of the University of Colorado at Boulder.

- Section 2:** UCSU Proper will adopt: “Diversity celebrates both individual and group differences, which include, but are not limited to: ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, economic background, nationality, Ideologies, sex, race, heritage, disability, and religion.” as the definition of diversity.
- Section 3:** UCSU Proper will adopt: “The University of Colorado at Boulder Student Union is dedicated to building and maintaining a population of students, faculty and staff, in which diversity is integral, essential and valued. Diversity is a natural and enriching characteristic of life, which is necessary to sustain a nurturing academic environment.” as the diversity policy.
- Section 4:** The Diversity Commission will reevaluate the University of Colorado Student Union’s diversity policy and definition annually and submit recommendations to Legislative Council as needed.
- Section 5:** This bill takes effect upon passage.

Sponsor’s Signatures

Michael-Scott Heberling
College of Music Senator

Juana Rosa Cavero
Representative

4/18/02	Passed	15-2-0
4/25/02	Passed	11-1-0

George Athanasopoulos, Leg Council President

Jon Buerge, Tri-executive

Edo Cohen, Tri-executive

Alexandra Taylor, Tri-executive