



The State University of New York
Student Assembly

Sustainability Committee

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RESOLUTION

TO: Members of the Executive Committee

FROM: Chrisel Martinez, Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Zachary Beaudoin, Chair of Sustainability

DATE: October 31, 2015

SUBJECT: Indigenous People's Day

Action Requested

We request that the State University of New York as well as the State of New York no longer celebrate Columbus Day, a holiday founded on oppression, propaganda, and outdated values; we instead request that Indigenous People's Day be created in its place to celebrate the rich and often forgotten culture of Indigenous people.

Resolution

I recommend that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA) adopt the following resolution:

Whereas Columbus Day celebrates the exploitation and genocide of the Indigenous people's that inhabited the Americas;

Whereas Columbus Day doesn't represent the values of the State University of New York;

Whereas the Student Assembly of the State University of New York condemns the celebration of Columbus Day;

Whereas the Student Assembly of the State University of New York apologizes for celebrating a holiday based on the bastardization of history and to the Indigenous peoples;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York calls for the discontinuance of Columbus day;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York calls for the adoption and celebration of “Indigenous People’s Day”;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.