GAPSA IDEAL Resolution
WHEREAS the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA) is charged with representing all graduate and professional students enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania, shall serve as a liaison among the student governments of the graduate and professional schools of the University of Pennsylvania, and represents the concerns of graduate and professional students to the University administration;

WHEREAS GAPSA is an inclusive organization which derives strength from the diversity of its members;

WHEREAS the GAPSA Committee for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Access and Leadership (IDEAL) shall further the GAPSA mission to represent all graduate and professional students at the University of Pennsylvania and empower members of underrepresented groups;

WHEREAS understanding and appreciating diversity is one of the University of Pennsylvania's most important priorities and is fundamental to success in today's world;

WHEREAS GAPSA embraces President Gutmann's statement that “The diversity of our university must reflect the diversity of the world around it — and the diversity of the world that we want our students to lead”;

WHEREAS the Penn Compact and the Penn Action Plan for Faculty Diversity and Excellence demand that “We will redouble our efforts to foster a diverse, inclusive, and equitable campus, where scholars, students, and staff from all backgrounds can do their best work”;

WHEREAS the University Council Committee on Diversity and Equity suggested in its final report in April 2015 the following actions: “Develop a Special Officer for Graduate Student Diversity. [...] [charged with] optimizing the communications between graduate students and affinity groups, forming a working group on diverse student life at Penn, and collaborating in data collection on the experiences of diverse graduate students”;

WHEREAS school-based diversity offices across the University of Pennsylvania's twelve graduate and professional schools do not yet coordinate shared best practices for consistent and equitable treatment of all graduate and professional students regardless of program affiliation, now therefore be it;

RESOLVED that GAPSA and its constituent G12 graduate and professional student governments hereby petition the President and Provost of the University of Pennsylvania to establish a Central Diversity Office that is charged with coordinating with and overseeing school-based diversity officers, providing support for underrepresented students across campus, implementing an online bias reporting system, and implementing a biannual campus climate survey.