Resolution of NYU’s Student Senators Council
SSC Supports the Implementation of Indigenous People’s Day and The Creation of An Indigenous Studies Program at NYU

WHEREAS, the Indigenous people of what is today New York State, the United States, and the American continent as a whole have experienced genocide, persecution, and deprival of their humanity for the past five hundred years;

WHEREAS, the Native American identifying student body has, historically, not been supported in direct and particular ways by New York University;

WHEREAS, the Student Senators Council, the Black and Brown Coalition, and other student-led groups recognize the United States is supportive of a larger movement in North America to achieve justice for this community when compared to other countries;

WHEREAS, there already exists the implementation within the United States in the past year of the Latin American “Dia de la Raza” to acknowledge the suffering and historical trauma as well as celebrate the empowerment of Native American and people of Native American-descent and within the country, particularly among universities, as “Indigenous People’s Day”;

WHEREAS, there have been previous student-led efforts to more actively support the Native American and Indigenous students on campus that have not been approved;

WHEREAS, in the past ten years there has been conversation and action on behalf of students, though no administrative commitment, for the creation of an Indigenous Studies Major and Minor within NYU’s College of Arts and Science;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Senators Council supports the third part of Demand XXIX within the List of Demands presented by Black & Brown Coalition, and its member organizations, requesting that Fall Recess on the University Academic Calendar and all documentation otherwise be formally and permanently named Indigenous Peoples’ Day;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Senators Council supports Demand XVII of the Black & Brown Coalition, requesting the creation of a Global Indigenous Studies Major and Minor Program;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Senators Council also urges that the Global Indigenous Studies major and minor, perhaps, but not necessarily, housed within the Department of Social & Cultural Analysis of the College of Arts and Science, which should be inclusive and open to the participation of Indigenous-identifying students, student groups, faculty, and administration, such as the Native American and Indigenous Students’ Group at NYU, NAISG, to the creation and implementation in the program of study.

NYU Student Senators Council | 2016.03.03
As Proposed by the Black and Brown Coalition, Senator McLeod, and Senator Thomas
March 03, 2016