

In the Student Senate
S.B.18-3.2
March 15, 2018

A BILL TO RECOGNIZE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY AT ELON UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS: The Elon University community currently occupies the traditional lands of Catawba, Eno, Occaneechi, Sissipahaw, and Shackory peoples, and;

WHEREAS: Many Native American and Indigenous students do not feel their identities are acknowledged on campus, as exemplified by the following:

- There are limited campus-wide recognition initiatives on the diversity of Native American and Indigenous cultures;
- Few educational courses or academic pathways/programs focus on the historical and present experiences of Indigenous populations within the current curriculum;
- There is no designated Native American Resource Room similar to other rooms dedicated to different ethnicities and facets of identity, and;

WHEREAS: Fifty-seven cities (including Asheville and Carrboro), four states across the nation, and the student legislative bodies of seven institutions of higher education (including Harvard University, Brown University, and Cornell University), have voted to recognize the second Monday of October (previously known as Columbus Day) as Indigenous Peoples' Day, and;

WHEREAS: The colleges and universities in the area, including Duke University, UNC Greensboro, UNC Chapel Hill, and Guilford College, provide more extensive resources and programming for their Native American and Indigenous-identifying students, and;

WHEREAS: Elon has the opportunity to counteract oppression and lead in social change ahead of Elon's peer institutions, and;

WHEREAS: More than four hundred and eleven students, faculty, and staff signed a petition to request that Elon acknowledge and embrace Indigenous Peoples' Day, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF ELON UNIVERSITY THAT:


ARTICLE I: We, the Elon University Student Government Association, recognize that students who identify as Native American and/or Indigenous have varied experiences.

ARTICLE II: We, the Elon University Student Government Association, will formally recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day and encourage further and future recognition through campus media outlets.

ARTICLE III: We, the Elon University Student Government Association, will encourage the administration to promote educational programming on Indigenous peoples and local Native American tribes during Indigenous Peoples' Day for the student body, faculty, staff, and community.

ARTICLE IV: We, the Elon University Student Government Association, will forward a copy of this resolution to the Senior Staff of the University, the Board of Trustees, the Academic Council of the Faculty, and the Staff Advisory Council, in addition to posting a copy on the Elon University E-Net and SGA websites.

ARTICLE V: We, the Elon University Student Government Association, look to our peers and encourage other student organizations to be allies in supporting the initiatives and student life of Native American and Indigenous-identifying students.



Author: Bear Tosé



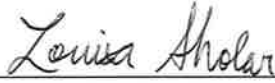
Co-Author: Amy Belfer



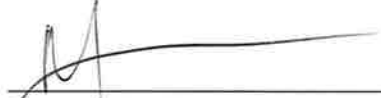
Sponsor: Xena Burwell



Sponsor: Arielle Watkins




Sponsor: Louisa Sholar




Second By: Nate Jones



PASSED VETOED



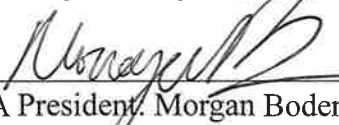
Speaker of the Senate: Spencer Wagner



Secretary of the Senate: Rachel Hobbs

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Vote: Aye Nay Abstain



SGA President: Morgan Bodenarain