



Senate Bill #4
of the 2016-2017 Session

Creation of the Student-Athlete Inclusion Working Group

Introduced by

ANKUSH AGRAWAL, Will Rice President, 2016-2017
JUSTIN ONWENU, Sid Richardson Senator, 2015-2016
ELLEN DIEMERT, SAAC President, 2016-2017
Monday, January 16, 2017

Passed on

Wednesday, January 23, 2017
GRIFFIN THOMAS, Student Association President, 2016-2017
Presiding Officer

Whereas, The Student Association understands the importance of inclusion and personal growth as one of the foundations of the Rice experience;

Whereas, Student athletes represent a large portion of the Rice University undergraduate population and face a variety of shared experiences;

Whereas, Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is committed to giving student-athletes a voice within the Rice University campus by serving as a liaison between student-athletes and fellow athletic teams, Rice's Residential College system, and the greater Houston community;

Whereas, The goal of Student Athlete Advisory Committee is "to bridge the gap that is formed from common misperceptions associated with college athletics, to help the university and the athlete form stronger relations, as well as team connections to enhance the college experience.";

Whereas, The purpose of the Student Association is to "provide channels of communication and cooperation among *all* parts of the Rice University community";

Whereas, The Student Association has demonstrated a commitment to creating campus wide dialogue through the Student Access and Success Working Group;

Whereas, Discussions regarding inclusion have touched international, low income, and first generation students, student athletes have not yet had the opportunity to bring their unique Rice experience to campus wide discussions; and

Whereas, The Student Association is committed to partnering with student groups and with University administration to promote the success and wellbeing of all students; therefore, be it

Resolved, The Student-Athlete Inclusion Working Group shall be created with the goal of facilitating a campus wide discussion amongst students as to the specific challenges student athletes face at Rice in order to document these concerns and work towards solutions with relevant University administrators and student leaders;

Resolved, The Student Association Student-Athlete Inclusion Working Group shall be chaired by an undergraduate student chosen by the Student Association President;

Resolved, The Student Association Student-Athlete Inclusion Working Group membership shall also consist of 2 at large undergraduate representatives, one representative from within the Student Association Senate, the SAAC president and 3 members of SAAC, and the working group chairperson for a total of 8 members;

Resolved, The Student Association Senate representative will be chosen by the committee chairperson;

Resolved, The at-large undergraduate representatives will be chosen after submitting an application to the committee chairperson who will consult with the SAAC president and Student Association Senate member;

Resolved, The Student Association Student-Athlete Inclusion Working Group shall begin implementing this initiative in January 2017 and will conclude in May 2017;

Resolved, That progress reports will be delivered to the Student Association Senate as deemed necessary by the working group chairperson, in consultation with the Student Association President and External-Vice President; and

Resolved, The Student Association Student-Athlete Inclusion Working Group shall conduct a final presentation at Senate and submit a final report to the Student Association President by the final Senate meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year.