



Resolution Policy/Advocacy

Passed by 91%-9%

Advocacy for Pepperdine's Recognition of the Armenian Genocide Resolution #5-S17

1. Whereas, Pepperdine University does not formally recognize the Armenian Genocide, which was the systematic annihilation of the Armenian People by the Ottoman Turks from 1915-1918 and,
2. Whereas, formal recognition by Pepperdine University of the Armenian Genocide would empower and motivate the Armenian students and staff on campus to properly heal, mourn, and feel welcome at an institution that recognizes their tragic history and,
3. Whereas, on November 30, 2016, the Armenian Students Association hosted a convocation event that discussed the how the denial of the genocide affects all Armenians as well as non-Armenians, especially in the United States, where the maximum capacity of Elkins Auditorium was reached. Some other Universities that have recognized and hosted events in support of the Armenian Genocide include all nine of the Los Angeles Community Colleges, the University of California, Los Angeles, the University of Southern California, and California State University, Northridge, Baylor University, Loyola Marymount University, Occidental College, the University of San Diego, and the University of Texas and,
4. Whereas, the formal recognition of the Armenian Genocide as well as the dedication or planting of a tree, the symbol of Armenian revitalization following the genocide, by Student Government Association (SGA) and President Benton on behalf of Pepperdine University would begin the process of reconciliation leading up to the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, 2017 as well as uphold Pepperdine's status as a prestigious university that condemns genocide therefore,
5. Be It Hereby Resolved that, SGA advocate on behalf of the Armenian community and those in support for the dedication or planting of a tree to commemorate the Armenian Genocide on campus and,
6. Be It Further Resolved that, SGA as well as President Benton work together to formally recognize the systematic annihilation of Armenians during the Armenian Genocide.



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Proposed Action Plan

- Set up a meeting between at least one member of the SGA Executive Board as well as leaders of the Armenian Students Association with President Benton to discuss further plans for recognition
- Work with SGA as well as the Department of Design and Construction to find a place to plant a tree or find a tree to dedicate on behalf of the Armenian Genocide with the placing of a plaque, similar to the one placed at the tree dedicated to the late President Ronald Reagan
- Work with SGA to publicize the announcement of Pepperdine's recognition leading up to the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, 2017 through social media