Resolution to Reaffirm Support for Impacted Students, Staff, and Faculty on Grinnell’s Campus

Sponsors: Student Government Association

WHEREAS, we recognize that Grinnell College is home to students, faculty, and staff of diverse backgrounds.¹

WHEREAS, the platform of the President-elect of the United States is wholly incompatible with the College's stated mission of social justice.²

WHEREAS, we recognize that the College is home to many students, faculty, and staff who have been oppressed by social and economic biases.

WHEREAS, the President-elect's rhetoric and policy marginalize, silence, and imperil the identities of these students.

WHEREAS, the President-elect has flagrantly repudiated the human rights enumerated by the Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.³,⁴,⁵,⁶

WHEREAS, the President-elect has demonstrated open hostility to the freedoms of speech and press vital to academic and social discourse.⁷

WHEREAS, the President-elect has undermined democratic values by insinuating widespread electoral fraud without evidence or merit.⁸

¹ Grinnell College Diversity Page
² Grinnell College Social Justice
⁴ The Washington Post US Constitution Must Be Protected Against President Trump
⁵ Universal Declaration of Human Rights
⁶ United States Constitution
⁷ A Donald Trump Presidency Presents A Grave Threat To The Press
⁸ Trump threatens to jail Clinton if he wins election
WHEREAS, the President-elect has weaponized the justice system by threatening a political opponent with legal action contrary with expert findings and testimony.⁹

WHEREAS, the President-elect has encouraged the disqualification of justices and officials on the basis of their presumed race.¹⁰

WHEREAS, the President-elect has de-legitimized the political voices of ethnic minorities by calling for vigilante election security efforts in minority communities.¹¹

WHEREAS, the President-elect has incited racial animus against Mexican immigrants and Mexican-American citizens by categorizing them broadly as drug dealers, killers, and rapists.¹²

WHEREAS, the President-elect has mocked and defined citizens by their disabilities, rather than their accomplishments.¹³

WHEREAS, the President-elect has refused to disavow anti-Semitic sentiment and engaged in anti-Semitic rhetoric.¹⁴

WHEREAS, the running mate of the President-elect has contributed to the erasure of LGBTQAI+ identity by promoting inhumane and abusive "conversion therapy."¹⁵

WHEREAS, the President-elect has minimized the contribution of Muslim-Americans to our armed forces and refused to honor the sacrifices of their communities.¹⁶

WHEREAS, the President-elect has encouraged rhetoric to ban all Muslims from our country and encouraged a xenophobic atmosphere.¹⁷

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⁹ On Election Day, Trump still signaling he may not accept results
¹⁰ Trump Says Judge’s Mexican Heritage Presents ‘Absolute Conflict’
¹¹ Donald Trump’s Call to Monitor Polls Raises Fears of Intimidation
¹² Washington Post Donald Trump’s False Comments Connecting Mexican Immigrants and Crime
¹³ Donald Trump’s Worst Offense? Mocking Disabled Reporter, Poll Finds
¹⁴ Anti-Semitism is no longer an undertone of Trump’s campaign. It’s the melody.
¹⁵ Time Mike Pence Support of Conversion Therapy for LGBT+ Youth
¹⁶ Donald Trump’s Confrontation With Muslim Soldier’s Parents Emerges as Unexpected Flash Point
¹⁷ Donald Trump is expanding his Muslim ban, not rolling it back
WHEREAS, the President-elect has falsely categorized African-American culture as being mired in decay, amongst the inner cities and "hell."\(^{18,19}\)

WHEREAS, the President-elect has not addressed the disenfranchisement of Native Americans or the current situation regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline which threatens the water-safety of Native lands of the Dakota people.\(^{20}\)

WHEREAS, the President-elect has lied outright about President Obama's election in an effort to delegitimize black and brown political power.\(^{21}\)

WHEREAS, the President-elect has demonstrated a fundamental lack of respect for the sexual autonomy of women, and categorized violent and non-consensual rhetoric as harmless speech.\(^{22}\)

WHEREAS, the President-elect has refused to honor the precedent for women's bodily autonomy in issues of reproductive health and freedoms.\(^{23}\)

WHEREAS, the President-elect has rejected the overwhelming scientific and humanitarian case for immediate action on climate change.\(^{24,25}\)

WHEREAS, the President-elect has threatened to revoke the tax-exempt status of private colleges across the United States and has specifically singled-out colleges such as Grinnell with large endowments, which directly threatens the longevity and financial stability of this institution.\(^{26}\)

WHEREAS, we recognize students’ space to grieve and to take the time for self-care in this situation; to make the space to mourn and to be fearful; to take the time to rest before returning to the fight; and to react in one’s own individual way.

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\(^{18}\) Washington Post Donald Trump Kicks Black Supporter Out, Calls Him "Thug"

\(^{19}\) The Atlantic Trump Wrongly Conflates Black People and Inner Cities

\(^{20}\) Trump victory a new challenge for Dakota pipeline protesters

\(^{21}\) Donald Trump Clung to 'Birther' Lie for Years, and Still Isn't Apologetic

\(^{22}\) Donald Trump sexism tracker: Every offensive comment in one place

\(^{23}\) Here's where Trump stands on abortion and other women's health issues

\(^{24}\) Donald Trump's Victory Could Mean Disaster for the Planet

\(^{25}\) How President-Elect Trump Views Science

\(^{26}\) Trump Targets Colleges With Large Endowments
WHEREAS, the President-elect’s comments and behavior would be unacceptable for any job on the Grinnell College campus, let alone any government position.

WHEREAS, we respect all person’s right to vote for whom they choose, but must also respond to support the marginalized students, faculty, staff, and overall community, and recognize the current political climate’s impact on daily lives.

WHEREAS, we cannot theorize regarding systems of oppression without directly confronting the reality of the current national political climate and its effect on all American citizens and people residing in the United States.

RESOLVED by this Campus Council here assembled to strongly condemn the new President-elect of the United States’ behavior and to support our students at risk of violence and hate.

RESOLVED by this Campus Council here assembled to strongly encourage professors to make the space for students to partake in discussion or abstain and process however students’ choose – whether in the classroom or externally.

RESOLVED by this Campus Council here assembled to support all community members attacked by the vitriolic language and behavior welcomed into the new American political narrative.

RESOLVED by this Campus Council here assembled to notify the student body, President Kington, the Board of Trustees, and the Chief Diversity Officer of our intent to continue to protest, to rise and act as a socially progressive college, to contact representatives and to get involved in the political process when possible, and to go out of our way to acknowledge problems in the United States and on our campus to support people of all identities and backgrounds on this campus.