ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 5-029

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF A RACE AND ETHNICITY REQUIREMENT TO ALL UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

WHEREAS, in 1990, the LSA’s Race and Ethnicity requirement was established in response to the 1987 Black Action Movement - BAM III, the third such movement since 1970 - which was sparked by a UM student radio announcer’s racist remarks, harassment of Black students in the residence halls, insufficient attention to minority student admissions, and the University and Ann Arbor police’s handling of an altercation in South Quad; AND

WHEREAS, incidents of discrimination and intolerance continue to affect students across our campus and nation today; AND

WHEREAS, undergraduates at the University of Michigan should have an understanding of social identity and how it affects themselves, their peers, and their community; AND

WHEREAS, LSA’s Race and Ethnicity Requirement seeks to transform students’ understandings of their identities within a broader context of our diverse, multicultural and racialized society; AND

WHEREAS, LSA’s Race and Ethnicity Requirement seeks to foster discussions centered on empathy and respectful engagement with peers while understanding the power of privilege and historical development; AND

WHEREAS, the requirement seeks to encourage students to inhabit the perspectives of other societal groups through an understanding of persistent racial concepts and stereotypes along with students’ civic role and enlightened contributions to society; AND

WHEREAS, the Central Student Government recognizes and supports the other schools and colleges on our campus that are making efforts to establish a requirement addressing issues of race, ethnicity, religion, social class, and gender as they pertain to their own curriculums of study; AND
WHEREAS, U of M’s Vision Statement encourages that we seek the understanding and perspective that distinct life experiences bring; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Central Student Government supports the expansion or creation of a Race and Ethnicity Requirement to all undergraduate schools and colleges at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the authors of this resolution will distribute this document to the Deans of all undergraduate schools and colleges at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor.

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President’s Approval

Cooper Charlton

1 http://www.accreditation.umich.edu/mission/
Presented to the Assembly for First Reads on ______________________
Presented to the Assembly for Second Reads on ______________________

Yes: _____  No: _____  Abs: _____  Date: ______________________

Signature Necessary: _____  Signature Received By _________________: _____