

APPROVED BY SENATE
10/15/2018

RS.19.02
October 15, 2018

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
Prefiled Resolution

RS.19.02 Resolution in Support of the “Critical Conversations” Initiative of the Chancellor

WHEREAS

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign continues to struggle with the “Chief” controversy, more than a decade after that symbol was officially “retired”;

WHEREAS

The Chancellor’s “Critical Conversations” initiative is a good-faith effort to heal campus divisions over the issue and to seek a sustainable way forward;

AND WHEREAS

The Chancellor’s initiative has brought key parties and constituencies together from all sides of this issue for a respectful exchange of views, in a spirit of positive commitment toward finding a resolution;

BE IT RESOLVED

That the Senate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign supports the “Critical Conversations” initiative of the Chancellor, an ongoing process committed to implementing the following recommendations laid out in the September 10, 2018 report:

- Develop a clear plan of next steps to move forward and regularly communicate throughout the process.
- Appoint a representative commission to direct this process and define future institutional strategies.
- Develop educational strategies to increase campus, local, and statewide knowledge about American Indian histories, cultures, and experiences.
- Create ongoing dialogues to build understanding and respect.
- Explore the possibility of new traditions that could include a mascot.
- Create opportunities for celebration and community building.
- Document our history.

Submitted by:

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