

Senate Assembly Resolution on Dark Skies

Whereas some forms of night-time lighting impede public safety and are a serious environmental concern, corresponding to forms of lighting that are a nuisance and serve no useful purpose, and are therefore defined as *light pollution*;

Whereas, in particular, *glare* impedes visibility on roads and pedestrian walkways, creating a threat to roadway users, especially cyclists and pedestrians; and *light trespass* and *skyglow* disrupt human sleep cycles and are linked to [multiple medical conditions](#);

Whereas artificial light at night is also a major threat to the environment because it [disrupts the natural ecosystem](#) and generates energy inefficiencies that contribute to climate change;

Whereas artificial light at night is also necessary to help ensure the safe performance of outdoor activities;

Therefore, in order to:

1. Minimize adverse impacts of light pollution in the form of light trespass, glare and skyglow;
2. Protect the natural environment from artificial light at night;
3. Promote energy efficiency;
4. Foster an environment that supports and/or enhances nighttime activities serving the University's missions in research, teaching, and service;

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate Assembly encourages the University to comply with best practices for minimizing light pollution that are recommended by the [International Dark Sky Association](#) and the Illuminating Engineering Society, by revising the U-M Design Guidelines and mitigating existing sources of light pollution as soon as is feasible.