

**The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #042726-4**

**Resolution in Support of Intersex, Transgender, and Gender-Diverse Students:
Inclusive Athletics and Alignment with University Values**

Whereas on the first day of the Fall 2025 term, the University announced that [gender-affirming care would no longer be provided for persons under 20 years of age](#);

Whereas during the same term, the University, without prior communication to the community, removed intersex and transgender students from athletic teams, including varsity, intramural, and club sports;

Whereas the University’s [“Intramural Sport Policies”](#) now include provisions citing Executive Order 14201 (“Keeping Men Out of Women’s Sports”), restricting participation based on “biological sex,” a term that is not clearly defined in the policy and does not reflect current scientific and medical understanding of sex and gender;

Whereas these Intramural Sport Policies do not adequately recognize intersex, transgender, and other gender-diverse individuals (including nonbinary people), thereby limiting equitable participation in essential University programs that support physical health, mental well-being, and social connectedness;

Whereas research demonstrates that the exclusion and stigmatization of intersex, transgender, and other gender-diverse individuals are associated with [adverse mental health outcomes and increased vulnerability](#) for marginalized community members;

Whereas the application of federal executive guidance in this context may conflict with protections under Michigan’s [Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act](#), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and [explicitly includes protections for gender identity and expression](#);

Whereas the University of Michigan Faculty Senate has [previously affirmed its support](#) for transgender, nonbinary, and gender-diverse members of the university community; and

Whereas these policy changes were not discussed with the University community or the Faculty Senate prior to implementation, nor clearly communicated afterward, undermining shared governance, institutional transparency, and community trust, and creating potential legal and reputational risks for the University;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University provide full transparency regarding the legal and administrative basis for these actions and clearly communicate the scope and implications of policy

changes affecting intersex, transgender, and gender-diverse students' participation in varsity, intramural, and club sports;

Be it further resolved that the University reverse the removal of intersex, transgender, and gender-diverse students from varsity, intramural, and club athletic participation, affirming that all admitted students are treated as full members of the University community with dignity and respect; and

Be it further resolved that the Faculty Senate calls upon University leadership, including the Office of the Vice President for Student Life, to revise intramural and club sports participation policies to allow all students to participate in accordance with their gender identity, in a manner consistent with the University's stated commitments to non-discrimination.

Movants:

Dani Jones, Associate Research Scientist, Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research, School for Environment and Sustainability

Marita R. Inglehart, University Diversity and Social Transformation Professor; Professor of Dentistry, Department of POM, School of Dentistry and Faculty Associate, Department of Psychology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Supporting Members:

Charlotte Karem Albrecht, Director, Arab and Muslim American Studies Program Associate Professor, American Culture and Women's & Gender Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Sean D. Johnson, Assistant Professor of Astronomy, LSA Collegiate Fellow, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Shanna K. Kattari, Associate Professor of Social Work and Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Sandra R. Levitsky, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and Associate Professor of Sociology, and Professor of Law (by courtesy), College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Rebekah Modrak, Professor of Art and Design, Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design

Rafael Neis, Jean and Samuel Frankel Professor of Rabbinic Literature, Professor of History and Judaic Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; Faculty Director of Arts Learning and Teaching, the Arts Initiative

Daphna Stroumsa, Assistant professor, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School

Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026

Results: Yes, 1299 (69.4%); No 572 (30.6%); Abstain 465 - Motion PASSED