

## **Resolution #4**

### **Defend DEI on Wisconsin Campuses**

WHEREAS We recently discovered that our Student Diversity, Engagement and Success office had been closed and the services reorganized on our campus. We have also heard of directives to remove diversity-related language (e.g., ‘underrepresented’, ‘marginalized’, ‘equity’) from initiatives. We also learned that pressure to eliminate diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives has come from at least one donor.

WHEREAS We are a microcosm at UW-Whitewater. The threats to our ability as educators to serve our most vulnerable communities are echoed statewide, nationwide, and worldwide. We must unite in our resistance to these threats; therefore be it

WHEREAS The attacks against DEI programs include the withholding of already-approved pay raises for University System Employees.

RESOLVED AFT-Wisconsin opposes the state legislature attempting to use DEI funding as a bargaining chip for employee pay.

RESOLVED That we call on the convention to:

- 1) Stress the importance of serving the educational needs of underrepresented, marginalized, and racialized groups.
- 2) Demand that DEI initiatives, programs, and offices are preserved and maximally funded.
- 3) Publicize any attempts to undermine DEI initiatives programs, and offices.
- 4) Support each other in organized campaigns to defend DEI initiatives, programs, and offices.

Submitted by: University of Wisconsin-Whitewater United (AFT Local 6510). Delegates: President Brandon Thomas, Vice President David Simmons, Member Steven Sahyun