

**To:** Purdue University Senate  
**From:** Educational Policy Committee  
Purdue Graduate Student Government  
Purdue Student Government  
**Subject:** Resolution Establishing the Record of Juneteenth on the Purdue University Academic Calendar  
**Reference:** Joint Resolution 23-JR001  
**Disposition:** University Senate for Discussion and Adoption

**Rationale:** On 4 October 2023, the Purdue Student Governments adopted a joint resolution to honor Juneteenth in the Academic Calendar, as well as their own respective calendars.

**Proposal:** Purdue University Senate endorses the Student Senates' joint resolution to recognize Juneteenth with no effect on / time off of class schedules.

**EPC Committee Votes:****For:**

**Senators**  
Burton (Lee) Artz  
Daniel Frank  
Eric Kvam\*  
Abdelfattah Nour  
Denise Rossi  
Mark Russell  
Steven Scott  
John Sheffield  
Monica Torres  
Jeffrey X. Watt

**Advisors**

Jeff Elliott  
Jeffery Stefancic

**Students**

Andrew Askounis  
Adewole Babalola  
Shye Robinson

**Against:**

N/A

**Abstained:**

Howard Sypher

**Absent:**

**Senators**  
Stacy Lindshield  
Mushin Menekse  
PV Ramachandran  
Antônio Sá Barreto

**Advisors**

Jenna Rickus



**PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT GOVERNMENTS**

**Joint Resolution 23-JR001**



**Resolution establishing the recognition of Juneteenth on the Purdue  
University Academic Calendar**

**Author(s):** Gabriela Da Silva, Rachel Zhang, Somosmita Mitra

**Sponsor(s):** Chang Ma, Collin Conrad, Praval Kollipara, Shye Robinson, and Andrew Askounis

**WHEREAS,** Juneteenth represents a pivotal moment in American history, recognizing the historical significance of the Emancipation Proclamation reaching the enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas, in 1865<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS,** In June of 2021, Juneteenth was officially designated as a nationally recognized federal holiday<sup>2</sup>, reflecting its importance on the national stage; and

**WHEREAS,** Indiana State Governor Eric Holcomb issued a proclamation in 2022 to recognize Juneteenth, signifying the state's acknowledgment of this important day<sup>3</sup>; and

**WHEREAS,** Honoring this day signifies Purdue University's commitment to recognizing the importance of diversity, inclusivity, and the vital contributions of African Americans to America's history; and

**WHEREAS,** Adding Juneteenth to the academic calendar will promote cultural awareness, foster a sense of unity and understanding among students, and allow for educational opportunities around this pivotal moment in American history; and

**WHEREAS,** Out of the sixteen BIG 10 schools, eleven recognize Juneteenth as a holiday on their academic calendar: Indiana University, Northwestern University, University of Michigan, University of Maryland, University of Minnesota, Ohio State University, University of Illinois, Rutgers University, Penn State, UCLA, and University of Southern California.

<sup>1</sup> National Museum of African American History <https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/historical-legacy-juneteenth>

<sup>2</sup> The White House (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/06/18/a-proclamation-on-juneteenth-day-of-observance-2021/>

<sup>3</sup> Governor Eric Holcomb (2022), <https://twitter.com/govholcomb/status/1538491789593616386?s=21&t=ozAoas60CXeN1IVRFsnHhQ>

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Purdue Student Government (PSG) and Purdue Graduate Student Government (PGSG) recognize Juneteenth on their respective calendars.


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Resolution be considered a joint resolution between PSG and PGSG for presentation to the University Senate Committees.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** The PGSG President sends this Resolution on its passage in the Purdue Graduate Student Senate (PGSS) to the Educational Policy Committee of the University Senate; Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee; and the Student Affairs Committee for inclusion of Juneteenth on the Purdue University Academic Calendar.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** The contents of the joint resolution between the PSG and PGSG, conditional on passage in both PSG and PGSG, be drawn up at a Presidential Delegation between both governments within 7 business days of both resolutions being passed on the senate floor of each government.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

DocuSigned by:  
  
C226C09237BD41F...  
President, PGSG

DocuSigned by:  
  
EG55BEA5G9924A6...  
President, PSG