

**To:** The University Senate  
**From:** Ximena Bernal, David Sanders, and Kevin Stainback  
**Subject:** 4 February 2022 Purdue University Police-Student Incident  
**Reference:** **Accounts of Incident and Official Purdue Response:**  
[Black student accuses Purdue police officer of using excessive force](#) – *The Exponent* 02/09/2022  
[Students gather to demand action in town hall meeting](#) – *The Exponent* 02/10/2022  
[Purdue University student's viral video claims police brutality in his arrest](#) – *Journal & Courier* 02/10/2022  
[Statement from President Mitch Daniels](#) – *Purdue News* 02/10/2022  
[Hundreds of students attend town hall after Purdue police altercation](#) – *Journal & Courier* 02/11/2022

**Disposition:** University Senate for Discussion and Adoption

**Rationale:** On Friday, February 4th, a Black student was forcefully restrained by a Purdue University Police Department (PUPD) officer. This event was recorded and made publicly available through social and traditional media. Hundreds of students gathered at a Black Student Union-hosted town hall and expressed their anxiety and concerns about the event. Statements from the Purdue University Administration nearly a week after the incident declared that there will be both an internal and an external review of the “police officer’s handling of the situation.”

**Proposal:** Acknowledgment of the Traumatic Effect of the Forceful Arrest of a Black Purdue Student by a Purdue University Police Department (PUPD) officer.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

The University Senate acknowledges its constitutional responsibility to advocate for the welfare of all students of the University.

The University Senate recognizes that the February 4, 2022 event is having a traumatic impact on feelings of well-being, belonging, and safety on campus, with the consequences for Black students, faculty, and staff being particularly severe.

The University Senate expresses its profound concern about the February 4, 2022 event, within the context of the nationwide revelations of, and protests against, excessive Police use of force in arrests of people of color.

The University Senate recommends that instructors understand and accommodate the needs of students impacted by the February 4, 2022 event.

The University Senate requests that the administration provide expanded mental health resources to students, staff, and faculty affected by the February 4, 2022 event.

The University Senate encourages all members of the Purdue University community to become informed about the powers and responsibilities of the Purdue University Police Department (PUPD) and the alignment of campus policing with University institutional values.

The University Senate requests that the administration enhance transparency about campus-police incidents involving force and to institute more robust community (faculty, staff, student) oversight over campus police activity.