

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

A Sense of the Senate on calling on President Joseph E. Aoun to condemn white supremacy and fascism

SS-FA-19-105

- Whereas:** There have been several recent incidents on Northeastern's Boston campus stemming from white supremacist and fascist ideology; **AND**
- Whereas:** White supremacist sentiment has been demonstrated by the slew of data collected via the #HereAtNU¹ tag on twitter; **AND**
- Whereas:** Students have reported an increase in white supremacist and fascist propaganda materials^{2,3} popping up on and around campus over the course of 2019; **AND**
- Whereas:** White supremacy and fascism thrive on dividing populations against one another, look to diminish the rights of minority groups in society, and perpetuate a superior-inferior complex between social-identity groups; **AND**
- Whereas:** The rise of white supremacy has ascended all over the globe and has threatened the safety and livelihoods of minority communities in their places of residency, worship, and work; **AND**
- Whereas:** Northeastern University prides itself on its diversity within the student body; **AND**
- Whereas:** "The University seeks to provide a supportive environment that is conducive to learning, the pursuit of truth, the exchange of knowledge, the intellectual development of students, and the general good of society."⁴; **AND**
- Whereas:** Students from minority communities feel unsafe on campus due to the presence of White Supremacists; **AND**
- Whereas:** Ignoring the issue of white supremacy and fascism on campus accentuates the issue itself due the normalizing effect of silence permitting the presence of white supremacist and fascist rhetoric. **THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

It is the Sense of the Senate that President Joseph E. Aoun and the Senior Leadership team should issue a statement condemning white supremacy and fascism on our campus and to inform the campus community of the University's plans to safeguard our institution from the effects of propaganda intended to advance hateful and exclusionary

¹ <https://twitter.com/hashtag/hereatnu>

² Amanda Kaufman, Northeastern University student finds questionnaires with fascist references in library (Boston: Boston Globe, 2019).

³ Northeastern University Student Government Association, Meeting Minutes (10/21/19) Pages 30 and 32

⁴ Northeastern University Student Hand Book (2019-2020)

rhetoric on campus and online. The Senate also calls on President Aoun and the Senior Leadership team to elaborate on Northeastern's plans to advance our pillars of Diversity and Inclusion in line with the 2025 Academic Plan by increasing racial and ethno-religious literacy amongst our students, faculty, and staff so that all members of the Northeastern community can adequately engage in conversations related to racism and other forms of bigotry and their relation to privilege and power.

Respectfully submitted to the Senate,

Erykah Kangbeya
VP of Student Affairs

Josh Roller
Senator

Approve: _____
Christopher Brown
President

Attest: _____
Gabriella Paese Nobile
Executive Vice President

