



Equitable Gender-Inclusive Housing Admission Processing

Resolution 22-23-14

Whereas: a core Jesuit value of the University of San Francisco is *Cura Personalis* - care of the whole person, including the physical, emotional, and financial well-being of USF's students; and

Whereas: Gender non-conforming and transgender students are at increased risk for discrimination in places of residence that do not actively affirm transgender and gender non-conforming individuals: *"Homelessness and housing instability was reported at higher rates among transgender and nonbinary youth, including 38% of transgender girls/women, 39% of transgender boys/men, and 35% of nonbinary youth, compared to 23% of cisgender LGBTQ youth"*¹; and

Whereas: USF's Gender-Inclusive (GI) Housing website states, *"The Gender Inclusive housing option is intended to provide a safe, affirming, and inclusive community living option"*; and

Whereas: not all gender non-conforming and transgender students who apply to GI Housing are admitted; and

Whereas: rejection from GI Housing places transgender and gender non-conforming students in environments where they are more susceptible to ostracization and discrimination; this is demonstrated in the following testimonies of anonymous gender non-conforming and transgender students who were rejected from GI Housing:

"Getting rejected made me feel like I wasn't 'queer enough' to be on the GI floor, that I didn't do enough for the queer community... Every time I use the bathroom, I go to a whole different floor to use the bathroom I feel safe in. It feels like the school is telling me that my gender isn't valid... I don't feel comfortable talking to basically anyone on this floor [ie., Non-Gender Inclusive Residence Floor]."

"At home, I'm not a they/them, I'm a she/her... So, at school, I would like to be who I am... No one really gets me, no one really talks to me... I just don't feel comfortable being me... I could feel it [a feeling of displacement] from the moment I moved in [ie., to a Non-Gender Inclusive Residence Floor]. I was like, 'Everyone's very feminine, everyone's very girlish, I just don't feel right here'... Even with my roommate, she's never said anything mean to me, it just doesn't feel like I should be there."

¹ "Homelessness and Housing Instability Among LGBTQ Youth,"

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/research-briefs/homelessness-and-housing-instability-among-lgbtq-youth-feb-2022/>



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“This year when I first got to the floor [ie., Non-Gender Inclusive Residence Floor], it was fine because I had longer hair... But once I started coming into myself and shaved my head, it’s been difficult going to the bathrooms because I get stares, people whispering, confused looks, so I had to go to the second floor [All Gender] bathroom because it was the only place I felt comfortable showering. I noticed when I dressed more masculine, people on my floor [ie., Non-Gender Inclusive Residence Floor] were meaner to me, like ‘Why is she in here?’”

“With my past roommate, she only wanted to see me as a guy [even though I only identify as one some of the time], and so I was forced to wear my binder 24/7 even in my room, to sleep and everything which is not healthy... [This student then switched rooms completely because of the way their roommate treated them.] On the floor [ie., Non-Gender Inclusive Residence Floor], using the guys’ bathroom always creates some stigma... I’ve had guys in the guys’ bathroom leave the door open while they’re peeing and look at me... On my floor, [I was] literally being hate crimed... I said [to the perpetrator], ‘Why do you feel so threatened about me? I get it, I use the guys’ bathroom.’ He got angry. It started as little pushes and stuff, and it just got worse... Even from people on this floor [ie., Non-Gender Inclusive Residence Floor] who are gay, I still get weird looks. It’s kind of disappointing for your own community to be shunning you. I tried to go to the girls’ bathroom, and they were like, ‘Oh you scared me’ or ‘Aren’t you supposed to be in the other one?’ I feel like, ‘Just leave me alone,’ kind of thing... It feels like they can say whatever they want to, and it’s not like I can fight back.”

therefore be it;

Resolved by the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate in its role as the sole representative body of all the undergraduate students of the University of San Francisco that the following be enacted:

Resolved: The Student Housing Staff ensure the following questions are included in the GI Housing application:

Is the student transgender and/or expressly gender non-conforming?

Would the student feel in danger if not admitted to a Gender-Inclusive floor on the basis of their gender identity and presentation? ; furthermore, be it



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Resolved: If the student answers “Yes” to one or more of the aforementioned questions, that student will get priority according to the following criteria:

- 2 “Yes” answers = Highest Priority
- 1 “Yes” answer = Medium Priority
- 0 “Yes” answers = Lowest Priority

Submitted by:

Adriana Parrino, *Gender and Sexual Diversity Representative*

Supported by:

Torry Brouillard-Bruce, *Sr. Director for Student Housing*
Candace Torrey, *Associate Director for Housing Administration*
Domonique Crosby, *Associate Director for Residential Life*
Dr. Aja Holmes, *Associate Dean of Students and Director of Community Living*
Erin Echols, *Director of the Cultural Centers*
Dan Gris Perez-Sornia, *Assistant Director of the Cultural Centers*

Presented to the Senate on:

March 29, 2023

Passed by the Senate on:

April 5, 2023

Signed by:

Ethan Lee-Bellows,
ASUSF President