



**Faculty Council of Community Colleges
Resolution on Gender Inclusivity within SUNY
CSL1.2019-2020
Passed unanimously
October 5, 2019**

WHEREAS the SUNY Board of Trustees Resolution “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy” dated September 10, 2015, desires to “make SUNY the most inclusive higher education system in the country”; and,

WHEREAS the policy further states that “SUNY’s approach must employ best practices to attract diverse students...ensure that services are in place to support retention...and implement programs and strategies to establish a welcoming environment for all”; and,

WHEREAS SUNY’s mission is to provide “educational services of the highest quality, with the broadest possible access, fully representative of all segments of the population”; and,

WHEREAS SUNY respects each person’s right to determine their own identity; and,

WHEREAS by documentation and communication SUNY will continue to develop a more accurate reflection of the range of gender identities and to become more inclusive; and,

WHEREAS SUNY institutions have previously approved changes to improve gender inclusivity, such as use of chosen names for official school documentation and use of gender-neutral pronouns in official communications; and,

WHEREAS it is essential that SUNY affirms its recognition of student identities and that non-binary students are not compelled to choose a binary gender designation, as misidentification can create barriers to self-identification and generate an environment where students feel alienated from their foundational interactions with SUNY; and,

WHEREAS both the Common Application and Universal College Application currently have the capability to provide more than binary options for gender identity; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges requests the SUNY Chancellor and Board of Trustees adopt a policy regarding applications for college

admissions to include a gender “non-binary” option in order to foster inclusivity and support enrollment, retention, and completion; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges in the spirit of inclusivity requests that campuses revise applications for admission and any official campus student documents to include a gender “non-binary” option so that our students are not compelled to misidentify themselves at the very beginning of their community college education.