

TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY
STUDENT ASSOCIATION **HOSPITALITY POLICY**
APPROVED BY COUNCIL – APRIL 7th, 2020
EFFECTIVE APRIL 7th, 2021



*As it pertains to the student body,
with a focus on minority groups at Trinity Western University*

PURPOSE

The Trinity Western University Student Association (TWUSA) is a group of students, for students. We are established in the pursuit of hospitality and service. In John 13:34-35 Jesus says, “34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another.” This verse provides the basis for this policy, and fuels the desire to express hospitality to all students regardless of age, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, status, race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, or mental or physical disability.

TWUSA recognizes there are student groups that are defined as underrepresented, such as Indigenous students, international students, LGBTQ+ students, students with exceptionalities and disabilities, visible minorities, and any other groups or individuals that have yet to be named. TWUSA recognizes that these students face many extraordinary circumstances or challenges.

I. THIS POLICY IS BUILT UPON THESE FUNDAMENTAL VALUES:

1. Hospitality

TWUSA pursues a welcoming and inclusive environment because everyone desires to be loved and welcomed.

2. Respect

TWUSA respects all, in word and deed, because everyone deserves to be treated with respect.

3. Training

TWUSA strives to be well educated on differences and how to best serve the student body because everyone deserves to be understood.

4. Advocacy

TWUSA advocates for respect, improvements, and accessibility because everyone is worthy of equal opportunity.

5. Encouraging Dialogue

TWUSA supports the discussion of different experiences and views because everyone has a valuable story to share.

II. THEREFORE, TWUSA COMMITS TO THESE

VALUES IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

TWUSA will Pursue Hospitality Through:

- I. Each TWUSA Council member being welcoming and hospitable.
- II. Offering the services of the Ombudsman to all students as a confidential mediator in cases of:
 - Violations of academic freedom,
 - Bullying and harassment,
 - Violence, or sexual harassment, or violence against any student whether a member of a minority group or not.
- III. Hosting events that encourage new friendships and engagement among the entire student body.
- IV. Allowing any current undergraduate student to book the TWUSA Lounge space and rent equipment.
- V. Working to ensure that the TWUSA Lounge and all events will be physically accessible to all students.

III. TWUSA will pursue respect through:

- I. Promoting and exhibiting respectful language and actions, including all public communications, whether in person or online.
- II. Encouraging accurate representation of and information about any minority group.
- III. Committing to respectful speech and respectful attitudes towards minority groups and encouraging the same within the entire student body.

IV. TWUSA will pursue training and education through:

- I. Sensitivity, cultural, and accessibility training for TWUSA Council members to better serve a diverse community.
- II. Equipping TWUSA Council members with ways to direct students within minority groups to information that will be beneficial to them, upon request.
- III. Providing any student with access to sensitivity, cultural, and accessibility training materials, upon request.

V. TWUSA will Advocate Through:

- I. Gathering information on student perspectives and needs in order to accurately represent all students.
- II. Representing minority rights within the TWU community through providing feedback to University committees and communicating with all departments of the University.
- III. Committing to disclosing information gathered from students and communicating the results of how this information impacts TWUSA's advocacy and the University at large. "Chairing the Equity and Hospitality Committee, co-chaired by the Vice President of Student Relations and the President. The Committee will be a safe space for students to voice situations of racism and/or discrimination."

VI. TWUSA will Encourage Dialogue Through:

- I. Creating and providing different platforms for story sharing.
- II. Involving and consulting members of specific minority groups when planning events regarding students within those respective minorities.
- III. Chairing the Equity and Hospitality Committee, co-chaired by the Vice President of Student Relations and the President. The Committee will be a safe space for students to voice situations of racism and/or discrimination.

AND THEREFORE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF LONGEVITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

In the interest of pursuing respectful and loving relationships with other students, as well as being accountable to this policy, constructive and grace-filled feedback is accepted and appreciated by TWUSA. If there are ways TWUSA can improve in actions, services, or efforts to create a welcoming environment, these ideas can be kindly and constructively communicated directly to the TWUSA President, Executive Vice President, or Vice President of Student Relations.

Amendments to this policy require the same procedure as outlined in the Trinity Western University Student Association Constitution III. B. 2.