Resolution 07-07-S
Outlet Resource Center

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to affirm its support for the Outlet Resource Center and encourage Western Kentucky University and the Department of Housing and Residence Life to take all possible action in ensuring its continued success and operation.

WHEREAS: The Outlet Resource Center opened in 2002 as a safe haven for Western’s gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and questioning students, and

WHEREAS: Since its opening, the Outlet has served hundreds of students, staff, and faculty at Western by providing counseling, resources, and support, and

WHEREAS: The Outlet is the only resource center of its nature in Kentucky and brings regional and national recognition to Western, and

WHEREAS: Many GLBTQ students have said that they chose Western over other state schools because of the presence of the Outlet, and

WHEREAS: In the past the Outlet has been operated by graduate students, faculty and staff who are trained in handling the operations of a resource center of this caliber, and

WHEREAS: Traditionally, a large amount of these staff members have come from Housing and Residence Life, and

WHEREAS: Since the spring semester of 2006 the Outlet has fallen under the leadership of undergraduate students who have not necessarily developed the skills necessary to operate a resource center of this magnitude, and

WHEREAS: The Outlet continues to be an important resource for Western in helping the campus community understand its GLBTQ students and combat homophobia and heterosexism, and

WHEREAS: Though recently the Outlet has experienced a sharp decline in attendance and campus prestige, its importance has not diminished, and
WHEREAS: The GLBTQ students, staff, and faculty of Western still need a place where they can safely meet and find friendly faces away from the homophobia and heterosexism they experience in everyday life, and

WHEREAS: There are no other resources exclusively for GLBTQ students to turn on campus, and

WHEREAS: It is the responsibility of Western Kentucky University to provide its GLBTQ students with support, counseling, and resources.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University affirms its support for the Outlet Resource Center and fervently encourages Western Kentucky University and the Department of Housing and Residence Life to ensure its continued success and operation.

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