

## "Proposal for Identity-Focused We Should Be in Office Event"



**Proposed Motions:** "Approve the proposal for an identity focused We Should Be in Office event."

**Sponsor:** Patrick Eckroth, VP for Governmental Affairs

**Persons of Contact:** Griffin Crisp, REP Director

**Date:**1/12/16

### Attached Document

There are no attached documents for this proposal.

### Background & Context

We Should Be in Office is a program created by the Associated Students Representation and Engagement Program, promoting a community approach to encouraging marginalized identities to be candidates for public office. This is an all-inclusive event working to amplify the voices of students that have been traditionally silenced or unrepresented in public office and state institutions. Community guidelines will be set to assist facilitators and students in developing a welcoming and productive space to hold conversations about campaigning for public office. In the past, the REP has hosted Elect Her an event to educate and empower women to run for office. We have decided that the programing does not include all gender identities and therefore needed to be changed in order to more fully represent and engage all identities on our campus.

### Summary of Proposal

The Representation and Engagement programs is proposing that during our event we have closed caucus spaces so that people from different communities can discuss challenges and hardships unique to their campaigning experience. These spaces are also to provide networking opportunities and coalition building as it takes a strong support group to run a campaign. There will be space made for all identities, but the caucus spaces will be closed for each group.

### Fiscally

No fiscal implications as this event has already been budgeted for this year.

### Rationale

The caucus spaces are much needed to provide space for communities to share their unique experiences and hardships when it comes to campaigning for public office. We hope that by implementing these spaces in our programming, we can provide a better experience for everyone that plans to participate in AS Elections and campaigning for public office in general.