



The Student Senate

Texas A&M University

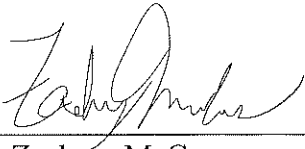
S.R. 73-09

Texas A&M University
The Student Senate
73rd Session

Sully Survey Results Resolution

"A resolution to serve as an executive summary of the results of the Texas A&M Student Senate's Survey of the Student Body regarding what should be done on the matter of the statue of Lawerance Sullivan Ross."

Action Taken: _____

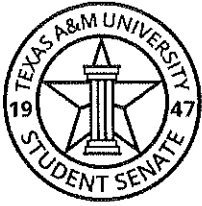
Certified By: 
Zachary McCue
Speaker of the Senate

Date Passed: 7/8/20

Introduced By: Zachary McCue, Speaker of the Senate, Off Campus Caucus
Hannah Spurr, Speaker Pro Tempore, Off Campus Caucus
Meghan Hein, Rules and Regulations Chair, COALS Caucus
Kerri Marbut, Executive Director of Operations

Sponsored By: Sam Jefferis, Academic Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus
Fawaz Syed, Student Services Chair, Engineering Caucus
Iman Ahmed, Diversity & Inclusion Chair, Off Campus Caucus
John Carter Teague, Finance Chair, COALS Caucus
Carly Oldag, Community Relations Chair, COALS Caucus
Clarissa Rodriguez, Constituency Affairs Chair, Engineering Caucus
Josh Feldman, Legislative Relations Chair, Off Campus Caucus

Whereas(1): Throughout the month of June the Student Senate, in conjunction with the Department of Student Life Studies (SLS) conducted a survey of the Student Body asking how likely students would be to support different outcomes regarding the statue of Lawerance Sullivan Ross, which stands on the campus of Texas A&M University in its Academic Plaza; and,



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Whereas(2): The survey was sent to all 58,746 currently enrolled students (as of Spring 2020). Submissions of the survey were accepted from June 12th until June 30th at 11:59 PM. During that time, a total of 22,824 (39%) responses were received, a response rate significantly higher than any other survey of the full student body at Texas A&M; and,

Whereas(3): The survey posed students with the question, “How likely are you to support the following potential options regarding the future of the Lawrence Sullivan “Sul” Ross (Sully) statue?” They were then given five options, “No change to the Sully statue,” “Remove the Sully statue from campus,” “Add a placard displaying the entire history of the Sully statue,” “Relocation of the Sully Statue to an on-campus museum/library,” and “Relocation of the Sully Statue to another location on-campus not including a museum/library.” Respondents were asked to rank the options above by how likely they would be to support each option on a scale of “Very Likely,” “Likely,” “Neutral,” “Unlikely,” and “Very Unlikely.”; and,

Whereas(4): As noted in the written report, “Students’ demographics were pulled from the university’s information system based on the students’ Unique Identification Number (UIN).” The integrity of responses was also maintained by the creation of a unique response link being sent to each student’s ‘tam.u.edu’ email address based on their UIN; and

Whereas(5): The key findings of the Sully Statue Survey were as follows:

- The following chart illustrates opinions of the student body as a whole.



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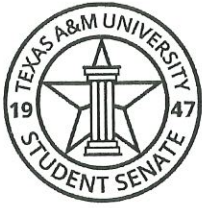
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	No Change	Adding a Placard	Relocation to Campus Museum/Library	Relocation elsewhere on campus	Removal
Very Likely	46%	34%	20%	6%	24%
Likely	8%	24%	15%	9%	8%
Neutral	7%	17%	14%	17%	7%
Unlikely	10%	11%	16%	23%	7%
Very Unlikely	29%	15%	35%	45%	53%
Combined data:					
Very Likely & Likely	54%	58%	35%	15%	32%
Neutral	7%	17%	14%	17%	7%
Unlikely & Very Unlikely	39%	26%	51%	68%	60%

- The demographic percentages of survey respondents followed closely the demographics of the school with slight variation;
- Students identifying as White were represented by five percentage points higher, in survey response rate, than in the student population. At the same time, International Students were represented five percentage points less, in survey response rate, than in their representation in the student population;
- While student opinion throughout the survey was clearly split in most instances, a notable finding came about when evaluating responses by students' race and ethnicity demographics. At least 55% of students identifying with each of the following ethnicities Black, Asian, Hispanic/Latino and also those identifying as international students indicated they were "Unlikely/Very unlikely" to support the potential option of "No change to the Sully Statue". Of those identifying as Black, 82% answered that they were unlikely or very unlikely to support that option;
And,



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Whereas(6): Amongst students identifying as Black, only 33% answered that they were either Likely or Very Likely to support “Add a placard,” while 51% answered either Unlikely or Very Unlikely to the same question. However, the “Add a placard” option held the highest percentage of all respondents selecting “Likely/Very Likely” at 58%; and,

Whereas(7): In the written report it is specified that 68% of those indicating they were “Very Likely” and “Likely” to support the potential option of no change to the Sully statue indicated they were “Very likely” and “Likely” to support the potential option of adding a placard. Of those who were “Unlikely/Very unlikely” to support no change, 76% chose the “Very Unlikely/unlikely” in support of the placard; and,

Whereas(8): The Student Senate, consistent with its mission “to represent all students in order to enhance the Texas A&M experience within our university and communities through research, legislation, and advocacy in accordance with the core values of our institution,” conducted and will share this survey in order to make known the voice of the students; and,

Therefore

Let it be

Resolved(1): That as the voice of the student body of Texas A&M University, the Student Senate asks all parties sent this piece of legislation to take into account the key findings of the survey as stated above and in the written report produced by SLS, as well as the data as a whole, when pursuing any action and/or inaction regarding the statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross; and,

Let it be

Further

Resolved(2): All parties mentioned below read thoroughly this piece of legislation and the written report of the survey, as well as examine the data as provided by Student Life Studies (SLS). That data & written report can be found here: tx.ag/sullyresults; and,



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Let it be
Further

Resolved(3): That all decisions regarding the statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross should be made known to the Student Senate and that the Student Senate be included in the process of making such decisions; and,

Let it be
Further

Resolved(4): A copy of this resolution be sent to:

John Sharp, Chancellor of the Texas A&M University System

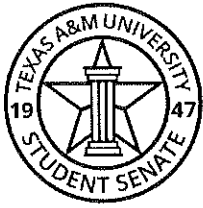
Vickie Spillers, Executive Director of the Board of Regents

Michael K. Young, President of Texas A&M University

Dr. Carol A. Fierke, Provost & Executive Vice President

Dr. Robin R. Means Coleman, Vice President & Associate Provost for Diversity

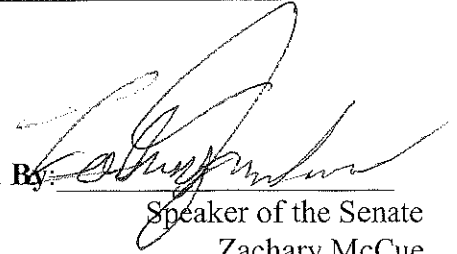
Dr. Daniel J. Pugh Sr., Vice President for Student Affairs



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Zachary McCue

Further Signed By: Aariana Myles, Off Campus Caucus
Joseph Rodgers, Off Campus Caucus
Cole Allen, Mays Caucus
Victor Ferro, Engineering Caucus
Dylan Sione, Off Campus Caucus
Brogan Gunia, Off Campus Caucus
Mikayla Nasis, On Campus Caucus
Jocelyn Marrufo, Liberal Arts Caucus
Ximena Reynoso, Liberal Arts Caucus
Holden Tumlinson., College of Geosciences