

**RESOLUTION asking the University of Baltimore to recognize “Indigenous Peoples’ Day”  
as a holiday in the place of “Columbus Day” to reduce the glorification of colonialistic  
values promoted by Christopher Columbus who is currently commemorated on our school  
calendar as part of recognizing “Columbus Day” on October 12, 2020**

**Introduced by:** Senator Randolph Wells

**Sponsored by:** Senator Randolph Wells

**Written by:** Chief of Staff Amadou Bah, Senator Randolph Wells, and President Daniel Khoshkepazi

**WHEREAS:** a Resolution to Recognize “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” on the University of Baltimore Calendar was passed by SGA three years ago and the University of Baltimore Administration had not implemented it to recognize “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” instead of Columbus Day on the University Calendar,

**WHEREAS:** Recognizing “Christopher Columbus,” for whom “Columbus Day” is named, is directly associated with inhumane wrongdoings against the Indigenous peoples’ population

**WHEREAS:** Christopher Columbus was a slave owner, and commemorating this holiday celebrates someone who does not uphold our university or community values,

**WHEREAS:** By acknowledging “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” on the University of Baltimore calendar will help move away from supporting the legacy of racism, colonialism, and inhumane wrongdoings against Native Peoples’ and other populations,

**WHEREAS:** Recognizing this day as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” will allow for a more proper representation of historical events associated with the discovery of the Americas and shed light on the tragedy that colonizers brought to the original inhabitants of the land,

**WHEREAS:** History has been written from the colonialist perspective, and we need to objectively recognize different perspectives and how others were affected by the actions of those who had control of writing history,

**WHEREAS:** This resolution aims to ensure that Native Americans whose historical perspective was silenced is rightfully recognized in the University of Baltimore’s calendar,

**WHEREAS:** This year, SGA has a goal of creating a more inclusive campus environment that embraces diversity, and doing this will allow us to get closer to achieving this goal,

**WHEREAS:** Many Universities around the country such as the University of Southern Maine, SUNY Plattsburgh, University of Vermont, Keene State College, University of New Mexico, Drake University, University of Central Oklahoma, and other institutions have transitioned to recognizing “Indigenous People’s Day” over “Columbus Day”,

**WHEREAS:** Taking this action will allow us to properly reflect on historical events at the University of Baltimore and recognize historical events for how they had occurred,

**WHEREAS:** “Columbus Day” and “Christopher Columbus” for many people is associated with genocide and the tragic loss.

**WHEREAS:** President Schmoke has already stated that he is committed to addressing the scourge of

racism in our country, including at the University of Baltimore. SGA believes that this will help us move the University of Baltimore closer to achieving his goal for our institution and move away from celebrating a holiday that celebrates the systemic oppression of native populations by Christopher Columbus and his participation in slave ownership and trade.

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE ENACTED:**

**SECTION 1:** UBSGA once again, recommends to the University of Baltimore to recognize “Indigenous People's Day” as an observance day in place of Columbus Day to help reduce the glorification of values associated with colonialism that are promoted by Christopher Columbus with the current commemoration of “Columbus Day” on October 12, 2020, in his name,

**SECTION 2:** UBSGA will share this resolution with USMSC with hopes to pursue this issue systemwide for a collective call for action to recognize “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in place of “Columbus Day” to reduce the glorification of colonialism and values promoted by “Columbus Day” that celebrates Christopher Columbus.

**Date introduced: 9/16/2020**

**Date passed: 9/16/2020**

**Speaker of Senate Joseph Ha**

Joseph Ha  
(signature)

**Vice President Kevin McHugh**

Kevin McHugh  
(signature)

**President Daniel Khoshkepazi**

Daniel Khoshkepazi  
(signature)