

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

Faculty Senate Resolutions

Faculty Senate

4-19-2022

Supporting the Renaming of Douglas Hall

Steven Scher
Faculty Senate

Todd Bruns
Faculty Senate

Teshome Abebe
Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://thekeep.eiu.edu/fac_senate_resolutions

Recommended Citation

Scher, Steven; Bruns, Todd; and Abebe, Teshome, "Supporting the Renaming of Douglas Hall" (2022).
Faculty Senate Resolutions. 2.
https://thekeep.eiu.edu/fac_senate_resolutions/2

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Resolutions by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.

Resolution Regarding the Renaming of Douglas Hall

April 19, 2022

Sponsored by Chair Bruns and Senator Scher

WHEREAS, Eastern Illinois University has a long-standing commitment to honoring diversity and fairness, and;

WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the fact that Lincoln and Douglas Halls were originally named to recognize the famous Lincoln-Douglas Debates, especially the debate held on September 18, 1858 in Charleston, this connection is not widely known and the name of Douglas Hall is widely seen to honor Stephen A. Douglas, and;

WHEREAS, Stephen Douglas played a central role in the 1850 compromise which included the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act which denied African-Americans the right to a jury trial and required all U.S citizens to aid in the capture of escaped slaves, and;

WHEREAS, Stephen Douglas was the author of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, allowing the further expansion of slavery within the United States, and;

WHEREAS, The Faculty Senate acknowledges that President Glassman initiated a thoughtful process to examine the question of whether Douglas Hall should be renamed to affirm EIU's support for equality and fairness for African-American students and others, and;

WHEREAS, Dr. Glassman involved many campus and community voices both in the discussion of whether a change should be made and in the nomination of possible new names, therefore;

RESOLVED, The EIU Faculty Senate urges the Board of Trustees to approve the renaming and to select a name that celebrates and emphasizes the commitment of our institution to the values of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.