

ACU Includes

Wildcats and friends supporting an open, grace-filled campus dialogue on sexuality and gender identity

A Resolution

WHEREAS, Abilene Christian University has a long history of encouraging open and respectful discussion regarding a variety of controversial topics on its campus, typified by Dr. Royce Money’s often-quoted statement that there are no off-limits conversations; and

WHEREAS, it is within the interests of ACU as an academic institution to maintain that tradition, and within its interests as a Christian institution to do so with the love and grace exemplified by Jesus in his debates with his religious and political opponents; and

WHEREAS, ACU’s darkest days have been those times when the university rejected diversity from its campus and silenced dissenting opinions; and

WHEREAS, the ACU student body is a diverse group comprising students of different races, classes, genders and sexual orientations from across the United States and the world; and

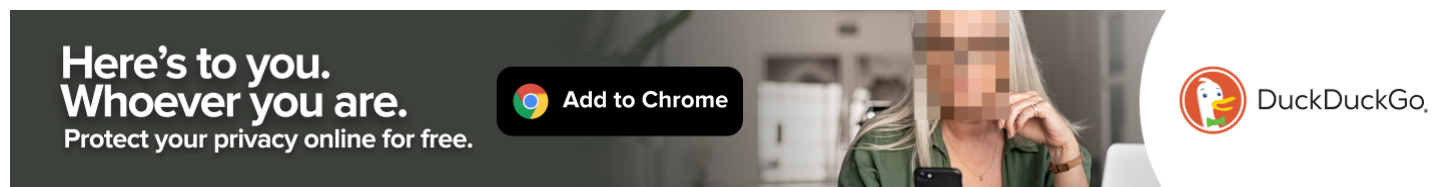
WHEREAS, Christians in community have no higher calling than to reflect Jesus’ love to all people, regardless of their differences; and

WHEREAS, numerous students and alumni of ACU are openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and/or queer; and

WHEREAS, legitimate differences of opinion exist among faithful Christians of every major denomination over biblical descriptions of same-sex relationships; and

WHEREAS, it is the purpose of an institution of higher learning to provide a place to express such differences of opinion in a constructive and enlightening way; and

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WHEREAS, ACU’s academic mission and its affiliation with Churches of Christ militate against the formulation of a creed or statement of faith that would bind the consciences of its faculty and staff on issues, such as sexual orientation or gender identity, about which significant disagreement exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE UNDERLYING SIGNERS DO DECLARE their support for ACU's commitment to welcome and love its students regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, **AND DECLARE** their support for the open and honest conversation now taking place on campus among faithful Christians with sincerely held disagreement on how to interpret biblical passages regarding same-sex relationships, **AND DO RESOLVE** to support ACU's trustees and administration as they strive to uphold the university's dual commitments to academic excellence and Christian principles.

– *The signers*

(<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17XijB5maRusfFBskTcBv6q7Wx6YZiQafc6dGSH8iXqo/edit#gid=908089619>)

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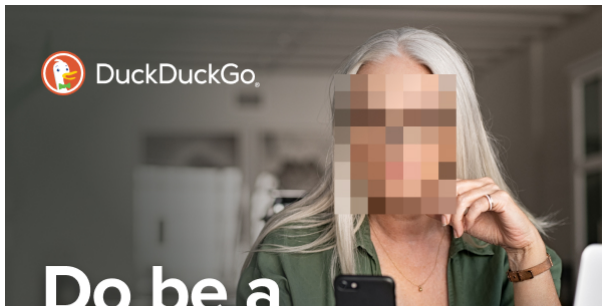
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10 thoughts on “A Resolution”

Melanie L says:

February 15, 2018 at 9:43 pm

Jesus was drawn to marginalized people on the fringes of society. He was radically inclusive to women, lepers, tax collectors, prostitutes, and others. I will not stand on the side of the religious leaders, hefting a stone in my hand. Instead, I will follow the Way to even MORE inclusion, MORE acceptance, and MORE love. I am confident my beloved ACU will follow this Way as well.

↪ Reply

Victoria Lee says:

February 15, 2018 at 11:08 pm

We are called to love. If we keep closing ourselves off as a community then how can we minister? God is love. I hope to see ACU adopt more inclusive policies in the future!

↪ Reply

T. Charlene Walker says:

February 16, 2018 at 12:25 am

Called to love not judge. This crosses all lines. Proud of you ACU

↪ Reply

Mike Bates says:

February 16, 2018 at 12:31 am

I met my partner there almost 20 years ago. I think that ACU is a wonderful place and love to see it's progress and prosperity.

↪ Reply

Rhonda McGaughey says:

February 16, 2018 at 3:56 am

God is love. That is all.

↪ Reply

Jeff Tippens says:

February 16, 2018 at 4:25 am

Jeff Tippens

↪ Reply

aarondburk says:

February 16, 2018 at 4:32 am

Darren Keyes, thank you for informing so many queer young people either going to or interested in going to Abilene Christian University that there are churches like Galileo Church who love them exactly how God made them.

↪ Reply

Joy Henderson says:

February 16, 2018 at 4:39 am

Jesus loved all of us , and it didn't matter who we were or our orientation:)

↪ Reply

Braden Clark says:

February 16, 2018 at 5:27 am

ACU needs to communicate. So many in the LGBT community have felt subtly unwelcome at ACU. If that is the case and they truly are unwelcome, ACU should come out and say it. It would save a lot of people a lot of heartbreak. However, ACU would also lose a lot of dollars so they won't. All people should be welcome on ACU's campus and all conversations that come with said people should be encouraged as well.

↪ Reply

Daniel Branton says:

February 16, 2018 at 5:38 am

It is not for us to decide what the sins of others is or isn't. It is only for us to decide what separates ourself from the father and to identify and eliminate sin in our life as an individuals that would cause pain to others and to love others as he has loved us.

↪ Reply

