Resolution in Support of Gender Neutral Language in ASUCSD

WHEREAS The University of California San Diego, herein referred UCSD, is a premier academic institution, dedicated to providing equal opportunity to its students;

WHEREAS The Associated Students, University of California San Diego, herein referred to as ASUCSD, is dedicated to building a egalitarian society;

WHEREAS Existing colloquialisms and conventions in language often unintentionally evoke negative stereotypes, preconceptions, assumptions, and attitudes towards women, intersex/transgender persons, and men;

BE IT RESOLVED ASUCSD, as the representative body of the entire undergraduate population of the UCSD, makes a strong commitment to conduct its meetings with language that does not intentionally or unintentionally alienate members of the community;

BE IT RESOLVED Members of ASUCSD will make a good faith effort to amend their language where appropriate;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED ASUCSD welcomes members of the community to help it recognize opportunities to improve behaviors, procedures, and traditions towards the goal of a fair and egalitarian society.
SUGGESTED GENDER POSITIVE SUBSTITUTIONS

Stereotyped Language

Stereotyped language is any that assumes a stereotype about a group of people. For example, a common stereotype about blonde women:

Incorrect: Although she was blonde, Mary was still intelligent.  
Revised: Mary was intelligent.

Gender-Neutral Pronouns

This is a grammatically complicated issue which council members should research and adopt suggestion based on their style and preference.

Non-Sexist language

Speaking in a non-sexist, non-biased way is both ethically sound and effective. Non-sexist speech is necessary for most audiences.

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) suggests the following guidelines:

Generic Use

Although MAN in its original sense carried the dual meaning of adult human and adult male, its meaning has come to be so closely identified with adult male that the generic use of MAN and other words with masculine markers should be avoided.

* Original: mankind, manpower
  * Alternatives: humanity, people, human beings, people power, human power

* Original: man’s achievements
  * Alternative: human achievements

* Original: man-made
  * Alternatives: synthetic, manufactured, machine-made

* Original: the common man
  * Alternatives: the average person, ordinary people

* Original: man the stockroom
  * Alternative: staff the stockroom

* Original: nine man-hours
  * Alternative: nine staff-hours

Occupations

Avoid the use of MAN in occupational terms when persons holding the job could be either male or female.

* Original: chairman
* Alternatives: coordinator (of a committee or department), moderator (of a meeting), presiding officer, head, chair

* Original: businessman
* Alternatives: business executive, business person

* Original: fireman
* Alternative: firefighter

* Original: mailman
* Alternative: mail carrier

* Original: steward and stewardess
* Alternative: flight attendant

* Original: policeman and policewoman
* Alternative: police officer

* Original: congressman
* Alternative: congressional representative

Historically, some jobs have been dominated by one gender or the other. This has lead to the tendency for a person of the opposite gender to be "marked" by adding a reference to gender. You should avoid marking the gender in this fashion in your writing.

* Original: male nurse
* Alternative: nurse

* Original: woman doctor
* Alternative: doctor

**EXPLETIVES:**

Please avoid expletives which have a strong gender-negative association as this are used to combine societal negative attitudes with personal gendered attacks.

Use of b****, h*, wh***, etc. are completely unacceptable.

**Further:**