

Motion Name: Include 'Latino/a/x' as an option in all future data collection related to Student Ethnic Background.

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Background:

1. Underrepresentation:

The current university census lacks specific recognition of the Latino/a/x community, contributing to their underrepresentation in institutional data. Latin Americans, whilst a growing community, remain a minority ethnic group in the United Kingdom (UK), yet they are frequently excluded as an option in most censuses and data collection points. The Latin American Women's Rights Service suggests that there may be between 700,000 to a million residents identifying as Latino/a/x in the UK. Our current information from the University of Bristol Latino Society consists of 175 active members, highlighting the significant presence of this community. This oversight lacks a representative understanding of the student body, limiting the ability to address the unique needs and concerns of this demographic.

2. Inadequate Support for the Latino/a/x community:

The absence of statistical data on the Latin American community hampers their representation in policy formation and impedes the provision of adequate support. Including Latino/a/x in the University of Bristol Student Union ethnic background data collection not only reflects the demographic reality but also aligns the institution with broader inclusivity efforts in higher education, promoting diversity, and nurturing an environment that respects the unique identities within the student population.

[Latin Americans in the UK: an increasingly visible population](http://slas.org.uk) (slas.org.uk)

1. Promoting Diversity and Inclusivity:

By incorporating Latino/a/x as an option in ethnic background data, we not only acknowledge the richness of our student body but also send a clear message about the value of diversity. This step contributes to a more inclusive campus culture, fostering understanding and appreciation among all students.

Purpose:

1. To ensure Bristol SU is an effective representative channel for all members by recognizing and representing the diverse demographics within the student population enhances the SU's effectiveness in voicing the needs and concerns of all members, contributing to a more robust and inclusive student representation system.

2. To better support the personal development of Bristol students who identify as Latino/a/x; with access to robust statistical data on the Latino/a/x community at Bristol, more targeted support can be developed and offered to these Bristol students. This can not only be the stepping stone for the University of Bristol, but also to motivate other universities and institutions across the UK to offer a more inclusive space for diverse ethnic groups.

Actions:

1. To include 'Latino/a/x' as an option in all future data collection related to Student Ethnic Background. This includes questionnaires, census, or other related areas where Student Ethnic Background Data is collected. Work closely with university administration to facilitate the practical integration of Latino/a/x, including discussions on the appropriate terminology, data collection methods, and dissemination of information to ensure an implementation process that respects the cultural nuances and preferences but also offers an inclusive space for the Latino/a/x community.
2. Bristol SU to begin collecting information about the Latino/a/x experience.
3. To lobby the university to include 'Latino/a/x' as an option in all future data collection related to Student Ethnic Background.