

Council of Graduate Students

Michigan State University

Resolution: 23-FS-03

Title: A resolution calling for the Board of Trustees to willingly release 6,000 Nassar documents held under attorney-client privilege to the Michigan Attorney General

Introduced by: Hannah Jeffery (President) and Carly Gomez (Former VPIA)

Introduced on: September 20, 2023

THE COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACTS:

RECOGNIZING, the 2022 results for the Know More @ MSU survey¹⁻⁴ reflect tenuous perceptions of administrative leadership among the student body, with 25.0% – 64.8% of cisgender women and transgender/nonbinary graduate/professional and undergraduate students responding “Agree,” or “Strongly Agree” to the statements, “Highest level of leadership are doing all they can to protect students from harm,” and “Highest level of leadership are open and transparent about challenges facing MSU”; and,

RECOGNIZING, despite efforts to increase awareness and resource accessibility, campus sexual misconduct reporting rates have not improved since 2019^{1,4}, suggesting pervasive institutional distrust; and,

WHEREAS, Survivor advocacy groups such as POSSE (Parents of Sister Survivors Engage) continue to call on the university to improve transparency on their handling of sexual misconduct matters, particularly by releasing the 6,000 confidential documents related to the university’s Larry Nassar investigation to the Michigan Attorney General^{2,5}; and, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, The Council of Graduate Students calls upon the Michigan State University Board of Trustees to release the 6,000 confidential documents involving Larry Nassar to the Michigan Attorney General for third-party review and transparent publication of findings; and, be it,

RESOLVED, The Council of Graduate Students reaffirms⁶ its commitment to defend and support the Sister Survivors and POSSE with the goal of ensuring that the horrifying actions of Larry Nassar never happen again at Michigan State University; and, be it,

RESOLVED, This resolution will take effect at the end of the Full Council meeting in which it was adopted.

VOTED ON: September 20, 2023

VOTE:

FOR: 33
AGAINST: 3
ABSTAIN: 6


Recording Secretary


President

References:

1. Dunlap, M. "Being sexually assaulted was awful. Reporting to MSU might have made it worse." *The State News*. 6 February 2023.
2. Guzman, W. "Michigan State BOT to maintain privilege, withhold 6000 Nassar documents." *The State News*. 26 March 2021.
3. Krebs, C., C. Lindquist, P. Lee, A. Saravia, A. Moore, and J. Lopez. "Appendix A1. Know More @ MSU Campus Survey Instrument – Student Version." *Michigan State U*. 2023. <https://supportmore.msu.edu/-/media/assets/supportmore/docs/2022-msu-know-more-survey-results-supplemental-tables.pdf?rev=95b16f162f394975888e03f8d2bd2cad&hash=C72DE526E14B04035BE8691DC075A350>
4. Krebs, C., C. Lindquist, P. Lee, A. Saravia, A. Moore, and J. Lopez. "Findings from the 2022 KNOW MORE@MSU Campus Survey." *Michigan State U*. 2023. <https://supportmore.msu.edu/-/media/assets/supportmore/docs/2022-msu-know-more-survey-results.pdf?rev=4d7bcd6fd3524ecc9d279f6a9d9beca8&hash=D04FC583E4E12B274EA6F5E09BF516AD>
5. Mid-Michigan now on FOX66 & NBC25. "Sister survivors of Larry Nassar present lawsuit to MSU Board of Trustees." *YouTube*. 12 Sept. 2024. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aP_qYDUSvBU
6. The Council of Graduate Students. "COGS Vote of No Confidence in the Board of Trustees and Interim President John Engler." 7 Feb. 2018. <https://cogs.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/COGS-Vote-of-No-Confidence.pdf>