Baylor University Faculty Senate Resolution to Support Tenure and Academic Freedom at Public Universities

Preamble

Whereas, a Texas state official proposed to eliminate tenure for new hires, revoke tenure of faculty who teach CRT (Critical Race Theory), and ban the teaching of CRT at public universities; and

Whereas, a Texas state official issued the proposal in response to the University of Texas at Austin's Faculty Senate resolution "DEFENDING ACADEMIC FREEDOM TO TEACH ABOUT RACE AND GENDER JUSTICE AND CRITICAL RACE THEORY"; and

Whereas, BU-PP 701: Academic Freedom and Duties states "Baylor University subscribes fully to the general principles endorsed by the Association of American Colleges in January 1941, and by the American Association of University Professors in December 1941, and to Standard 6.4 on Academic Freedom included in the Principles of Accreditation of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)."

Resolution

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Baylor University Faculty Senate supports faculty at the University of Texas at Austin and other public universities, whose expertise on "race, gender justice, and critical race theory" should not be legislated out of academic classrooms; and

Be it further resolved, that the Baylor University Faculty Senate believes faculty, not legislators, should determine the curricular matters and research agendas of faculty teaching, publishing, and conducting research at their respective public universities; and

Be it further resolved, that the Baylor University Faculty Senate supports tenure because it helps to ensure the academic freedom necessary to teach with honesty and conduct research with integrity.