

Faculty Senate Resolution on Academic Freedom and Tenure

WHEREAS TAMIU's mission is to "prepare students for leadership roles in an increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society" by pursuing "a progressive agenda for global study and understanding across all disciplines;"

WHEREAS the [TAMIU Faculty Handbook](#) and [TAMU System Policy 12.01 Sections 1 and 2](#) affirm the importance of academic freedom to the proper functioning of universities in a manner and language consistent with the [American Association of University Professors' 1940 statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure](#);

WHEREAS faculty have responsibility for the curriculum at TAMIU, as stated in the Faculty Handbook and TAMUS System Policy;

WHEREAS the threat to tenure impacts the capacity of educators to explore a wide variety of topics that are crucial to the goals of education and the development of essential critical thinking skills;

WHEREAS TAMIU is designated as a Hispanic Serving Institutions;

WHEREAS educating about systemic barriers based on race or gender that restrict realizing an inclusive democracy should be understood as central to the active and engaged pursuit of knowledge in the 21st century, to produce engaged and informed citizens;

WHEREAS TAMIU's Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee (TIDE), charged by the Office of the Provost, is committed to the TAMU System's normative principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as to "advancing the cause of these principles by pursuing cross-cultural exploration, inter-cultural relationship building, and mutual learning and growth;"

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the TAMIU Faculty Senate resolutely rejects any attempts by bodies external to the faculty to restrict or dictate university curriculum on any matter, including matters related to racial and social justice, and will stand firm against encroachment on faculty authority by the legislature or Board of Regents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the TAMIU Faculty Senate affirms [the Joint Statement on Efforts to Restrict Education about Racism and American History](#) authored by the AAUP, PEN America, the American Historical Association, and the Association of American Colleges & Universities, endorsed by over seventy organizations, and issued on June 16, 2021.

NOTE: This draft was fashioned based on the Template Academic Senate Resolution