

## **Resolution 2019-2020: Free Speech**

**Whereas**, the Faculty Senate tasked an Ad Hoc Committee, consisting of volunteer faculty, to review current policies and practices at The University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler) related to Free Speech and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate; and

**Whereas**, UT Tyler's Handbook of Operating Procedures (HOP) 2.7.1 Freedom of Expression provides policies and procedures regarding students, faculty, and staff free expression of their views; and

**Whereas**, the University of Texas System Regents' Rule 40501: Speech and Assembly states, "The freedoms of speech and assembly are basic and essential to intellectual development. However, these activities are subject to the well-established right of colleges and universities to regulate time, place, and manner so that the activities do not intrude upon or interfere with the academic programs and administrative processes of The University of Texas System or any of the institutions."; and

**Whereas**, UT Tyler's Manual of Policies and Procedures for Student Affairs Chapter 6: Speech, Expression, and Assembly provides extensive policies and procedures related to the regulation of time, place and matter of activities; and

**Whereas**, the University of Texas System Faculty Advisory Council constructed and adopted a statement On Freedom of Speech on April 19, 2018; then

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate of the University of Texas at Tyler endorse the University of Texas System Faculty Advisory Council statement On Freedom of Speech.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate recommends the creation of an Ad Hoc committee consisting of faculty from each of the 6 colleges and the Office of Human Resources tasked to review the current HOP policy on Freedom of Expression and its alignment with the endorsed Faculty Advisory Council statement On Freedom of Speech.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate recommends this Ad Hoc committee be tasked with determining the process, defining the authorities, and ensuring the campus community's involvement in applying the HOP policies and the FAC statement On Freedom of Speech in order to ensure the policies are fair for all, protect campus community members' awareness of the university's place as a site of the exchange of ideas, and stimulates thought on campus.