

Resolution for Protecting Faculty’s Freedom in Assessment of Academic Performance

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Whereas, freedom in teaching is one of the main pillars of academic freedom and the mode and manner manner of assessment of the students’ academic performance is a fundamental part of teaching;

Whereas, there have been reports of administrative pressure on faculty to modify their assessments and/or the grades resulting from their assessments;

Whereas, current administrative focus on declining enrollments can generate pressures on both individual faculty and institutionally to lower academic standards and for campuses to function more like degree mills due to economic pressures;

Whereas, the current contract’s section on Academic Freedom (*Article V -Academic Freedom and Responsibility*) is silent on protecting faculty autonomy over assessment;

Whereas, the AAUP has revised their definitions of academic freedom to incorporate protections for assessment stating “According to AAUP policies, the freedom to teach includes the right of the faculty to select the materials, determine the approach to the subject, make the assignments, and assess student academic performance in teaching activities for which faculty members are individually responsible.” ([FAQs on Academic Freedom | AAUP](#))

Therefore be it resolved that

We recommend that the bargaining committee in developing the bargaining platform for the 2023-2026 contract negotiations insert language to protect faculty’s academic freedom over assessment into Article V-Academic Freedom and Responsibility to ensure such freedom is respected.