University Senate May 5, 2025

Resolution to Work in Mutual Defense of Academic Freedom, Free Expression, Institutional Integrity, and the Research Enterprise

Whereas, academic freedom and the autonomy of educational institutions are under unprecedented threat by governmental, private, and political actors;

Whereas, America's Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) represent a longstanding tradition of academic collaboration, research excellence, and commitment to democratic values and shared governance;

Whereas, these nearly 250 APLU institutions represent more than one million faculty and staff members and 6.6 million undergraduate and graduate students;

Whereas, the preservation of one institution's integrity is the concern of all, and an infringement against one institution shall be considered an infringement against all;

We, the University Senate of the University of Connecticut, in support of the broader principles of collective action and shared governance, endorse a collective response to these threats. We strongly encourage the University Administration, in conjunction with the CT State Attorney General, CT Governor, or other members of the Connecticut state government, to commit to expanding its efforts to craft, where legally permissible, strategic, legal, and where appropriate, resource sharing coalitions with other Public and Land Grant state institutions.

We request that the President, Provost, and Senior Leadership provide updates to the Senate Executive Committee and Senate with a speed and frequency appropriate to the ongoing urgency of the national situation.

The motion passed as amended unanimously by voice vote.