

Resolution Number: RF15-338

November, 2015

Whereas:

Freedom of speech is a constitutional right and the freedom of academic inquiry and debate are cornerstones of a liberal education; and

Whereas:

The past 40 years have borne witness to advancements in pedagogy, research and technology and such progress has broadened and challenged the methods and the contents of academic inquiry and teaching at San Francisco State University; and

Whereas:

The critical approaches to research, teaching and creative expression embedded in the concept of academic freedom (as outlined in the San Francisco State University's Academic Senate Policy on Academic Freedom #F13-267) enable the San Francisco State University faculty, staff, and students to affirm that it is the responsibility of the entire campus community to maintain, encourage, promote, and protect academic freedom, and to ensure that it is not compromised by censorship, fear of reprisal, institutional discipline, or interference from the public or government? and also to affirm the University's Strategic Plan and its ideals of courage, a life of the mind, equity, community, and resilience;? and

Whereas:

Attempts by external and internal political organizations, lobbying groups, and private donors to pressure the SFSU or CSU Administration, Board of Trustees, and the legislators to limit or question academic freedom (as spelled out in the Rationale of California State University AS-3193-14) constitute attacks on academic freedom; and

Whereas:

Attacks on academic freedom cripple the ideals of San Francisco State University and have a chilling effect on teaching, research, and the advancement of knowledge; and

Whereas:

SFSU's ideals of academic freedom in conjunction with the ideals set forth by the Strategic Plan will thrive within a workplace environment that ensures the protection from attacks on academic freedom; Therefore be it

Resolved:

That the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University endorse AS-3193-14; and be it further

Resolved:

That the Academic Senate of San Francisco State University revise the Policy on Academic Freedom #F13-267 to reflect protection from attempts by external and internal political organizations, lobbying groups, and private donors to pressure the SFSU or CSU Administration, Board of Trustees, and the legislators to limit or question academic freedom; and be it further

Resolved:

That this resolution be forwarded to the CSU Board of Trustees, Chancellor White, the CSU Academic Senate Chair, President Wong, Provost Rosser, and CSU Campus Senator Chairs.
