

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

RESOLUTION FROM THE COMMITTEE OF COUNSEL ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

On behalf of the Committee of Counsel on Academic Freedom and Responsibility, Janet Staiger (chair) submitted the following resolution to be considered by the Faculty Council at its meeting on October 15, 2001. The secretary has classified this item as general legislation.

John R. Durbin, Secretary
The General Faculty

RESOLUTION FROM THE COMMITTEE OF COUNSEL ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

Given current national and global events and the importance of members of the University community discussing these matters on campus and extramurally, the Committee of Counsel on Academic Freedom and Responsibility submits the following Resolution.

Resolved:

- 1) That all members of the University community — students, faculty, staff, and administrators — be reminded of the principles involving Academic Freedom and Responsibility as stated by the American Association of University Professors in the 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure, including:
 - a) "The common good depends upon the free search for truth and its free exposition."
 - b) "College and university teachers are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of an educational institution. When they speak and write as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As scholars and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution."
- 2) That these principles of Academic Freedom and Responsibility be widely disseminated to the University community via e-mail and in the *Daily Texan* so that all students, faculty, staff, and administrators have these statements as guiding principles for discourse on campus and extramurally.
- 3) That the members of the academic community treat one another with dignity in both their words and actions during the days ahead.

This legislation was posted on the Faculty Council web site (<http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/>) and paper copies were mailed to voting members of the General Faculty on October 8, 2001.