



San José State
UNIVERSITY

A campus of The California State University

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SS-F04-4

At its meeting of November 22, 2004, the Academic Senate passed the following Sense of the Senate Resolution presented by Senator Veregge for the Executive Committee.

**SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING AN ANNUAL FORUM ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

Whereas, Academic freedom is essential to the mission of a university. “Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Academic freedom in its teaching aspect is fundamental for the protection of the rights of the teacher in teaching and of the student to freedom in learning. It carries with it duties correlative with rights.”¹

Whereas, The charge of the Board of Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility (BFR) includes educating “the academic community about academic freedom and professional responsibility by disseminating Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility policy and holding workshops and forums as necessary.”²

Whereas, For the past several months, the Senate Chair has been working with members of BFR and other interested faculty in creating a first forum on academic freedom, which can be used as a framework for annual forums where the SJSU community can learn of new developments (such as AAUP statements and court cases) in the area of academic freedom, learn of new issues, and have an opportunity to discuss the topic as relevant to teaching, learning and research at SJSU.

Whereas, The date for the first annual forum on academic freedom has been set for February 11, 2005 from 10 a.m. to noon and the SJSU Chapter of the California Faculty Association and Associated Students are interested in being co-sponsors with the Senate and assisting in the event planning; therefore be it resolved

Resolved, That the Academic Senate support and encourage the BFR to begin annual forums on academic freedom to enable the academic community to be kept abreast of new developments and have an avenue to discuss these important topics.

¹ American Association of University Professors, 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure; available at <http://www.aaup.org/statements/Redbook/1940stat.htm>. Also see UP S99-8, Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility; available at <http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/s99-8.htm>.

² See UP S99-9 available at <http://www2.sjsu.edu/senate/s99-9.htm>.

Resolved, That the Senate Chair have the ongoing responsibility of working with BFR members and representatives from co-sponsor CFA and Associated Students and other interested faculty, staff and students to ensure that a forum on academic freedom is held annually and publicized to the campus.

Vote: 12-0-0

Present: Veregge, Sigler, Heisch, Thames, Ashton, Maldonado-Colon, Phillips, Nellen, Van Selst, Bros, Lessow-Hurley, Kassing

Absent: Greathouse, Lee, Donoho

Financial Impact: Minimal. CFA has volunteered to cover the annual costs of copying handouts and providing food.