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**Academic Senate**

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***RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND INQUIRY***

***AND RENEWAL OF ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY’S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY***

WHEREAS, we the members of the Illinois State University Academic Senate, recognize the law of the land and the authority of the judicial, legislative and executive branches of the federal government. We also recognize the importance of key principles of higher education— shared governance and democratic values, integrity of scientific research, freedom of thought and inquiry, the production and dissemination of knowledge, and support for students and employees from diverse backgrounds.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we affirm our University’s core values of Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship; Individualized Attention; Equity, Diversity, Access and Belonging; Collaboration; Community and Civic Engagement;   
Respect; and Integrity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we endorse the Faculty Advisory Council of the Illinois Board of Higher Education resolution, which states:

Recognizing that historical and contemporary discrimination still impacts higher education, we the members of the IBHE-FAC recommend that the IBHE continue to support and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the recruitment, retention, and promotion of faculty and staff and in the recruitment, retention, and education of students.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we stand with our local institution, Illinois Wesleyan University, as they face criticism and attack from the federal government, and we support President Tarhule’s efforts to navigate new federal directives while upholding our commitment to our stated values.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we value the perspectives and contributions of all students and employees, regardless of immigration or visa status, who may be adversely affected by haphazard implementation of immigration policies and offer support and protection to them to the fullest extent of the law.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, members of the Academic Senate of Illinois State University, affirm our mission to prepare diverse, engaged, and informed members of society through collaborative teaching, scholarship, and service; further, to support this mission, we will continue to uphold our dedication to democracy and our capacity to challenge policies that threaten our democratic future.

*Adopted by the Academic Senate of Illinois State University on 4-23-2025*