

Staff Advisory Council Resolution Reaffirming Academic Freedom and Institutional Values
Approved on August 10, 2021

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents will consider a resolution to oppose “Critical Race Theory being imposed in curriculum, training, and programming” on August 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Critical Race Theory provides a holistic understanding of American history with the inclusion of systemic prejudice; and

WHEREAS, This resolution undermines UNO’s institutional values, including the values of Inclusion, Discovery, and the Maverick Spirit, and fails to promote the University of Nebraska’s priority of Inclusive Excellence; and

WHEREAS, Any interference in curriculum, regardless of its topic, violates the principles of academic freedom; and

WHEREAS, Academic freedom protects the ability of an educator to teach and discuss topics without restriction or interference by school or public officials; and

WHEREAS, This resolution violates section 4.2 of the Board of Regents Bylaws which states that “[t]he Board reaffirms belief in, pledges support of, and directs all segments of the University community to sustain and follow the foregoing principles of academic freedom”; and

WHEREAS, Academic freedom is a foundational pillar of academia and its principles must be safeguarded by the University and the communities it serves;

BE IT RESOLVED, That the UNO Staff Advisory Council reaffirms the principles of academic freedom and condemns any interference in curriculum, training, and programming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the UNO Staff Advisory Council urges the Board of Regents to uphold the values of inclusivity by voting against the aforementioned resolution.