Faculty Senate Bill Number 467

**Independence of Faculty Senators from Administrative Influences
to Speak or Vote at Faculty Senate Meetings**

**Whereas** the Faculty Senate represents faculty in shared governance of the University with the administration, and

**Whereas** effective shared governance demands open engagement to resolve disparate views on topics of importance to the University, and

**Whereas** open engagement unequivocally means that members of the Faculty Senate must be able to speak their minds and vote according to sentiments from the Department that they represent, and

**Whereas** open engagement can demand that the members of the Faculty Senate be able to speak vibrantly against policies or bills that may be perceived to run counter a preferred view of the administration without any intimidation or fear of recriminations from the administration, and

**Whereas** actions by any administrator at the University to engage with a member of the Faculty Senate in discussions that can be in any way be perceived as trying to influence or block that member from full, open engagement within the Faculty Senate directly violates the above principles, and

**Whereas** recent reports have been provided that suggest if not show convincingly that administrative officials in Departments and Colleges engaged with members of the Faculty Senate in ways that can be perceived as if not established to be attempts to block, influence, or alter how the members would speak or vote on resolutions or bills brought before the body of the Faculty Senate,

**Be it therefore resolved that**

The Faculty Senate requests that the administration must alway refrain from and pro-actively police themselves against undertaking any actions that can be perceived as directly or indirectly attempting to influence in any way how any Faculty Senator will speak or vote during a meeting of the Faculty Senate.