

FCC Statement: Reaffirming our Values

Recent events on campus and around the nation have challenged many of the University of Minnesota's core principles. The University of Minnesota community includes many members who have expressed concerns about whether they are safe, valued, and free to express their opinions and values. Given these challenges, the Faculty Consultative Committee wants to take this opportunity to reaffirm our University's guiding principles.

The University of Minnesota was founded in the belief that all people are enriched by understanding: the University is dedicated to the advancement of learning and the search for truth, to the sharing of this knowledge, and to the application of this knowledge to benefit the people of the state, the nation, and the world.[1] Our guiding principles state that in all activities we strive to provide an atmosphere of mutual respect, free from racism, sexism, and other forms of prejudice and intolerance.[2] We also believe that the pursuit of knowledge should be driven by data, analyses, and critical thinking, not by prejudice or political opinion.

As faculty, we value the contributions of all of the University community. The University is enriched by bringing together, respecting, and valuing individuals from all countries. A diverse community of mutual respect helps us to accomplish our mission, advancement of learning, the search for truth, and the sharing of this knowledge.

Therefore, the Faculty Consultative Committee of the University of Minnesota:

- Reaffirms our core mission stating that the University of Minnesota, founded in the belief that all people are enriched by understanding, is dedicated to the advancement of learning and the search for truth; to the sharing of this knowledge through education for a diverse community; and to the application of this knowledge to benefit the people of the state, the nation, and the world.[1] Our guiding principles state that in all our activities we strive to provide an atmosphere of mutual respect, free from racism, sexism, and other forms of prejudice and intolerance.[2]
- Reaffirms our core values, including freedom of speech, expression, and inquiry; respect for all persons without regard to race, religion, national origin, political views, disability, family status or gender identity; and the belief that truth emerges most effectively from a diverse community engaging in a thoughtful, respectful, and spirited dialogue in pursuit of understanding.
- Reaffirms our belief that the pursuit of knowledge should be driven by data, analyses, and critical thinking, not by prejudice or political opinion.
- Reaffirms our commitment to the mission of advancing learning and applying knowledge to the benefit of people worldwide, and, in turn, to engaging the world through travel, collaboration, and educational exchange.
- Reaffirms that we value the contributions of all the University's students, staff, and faculty and remain committed to bringing together talented individuals from all countries and

backgrounds to allow us to most effectively fulfill our mission of research, teaching, and service.

- Acknowledges that with diversity comes challenges and that individuals may legitimately feel threatened, attacked, or devalued. We, therefore, reaffirm our commitment to strive for inclusion, respect, and understanding in all our affairs.

[1] Board of Regents Policy: Mission Statement.

[2] Ibid.

Approved unanimously 3/23/17