

SGA Resolution No. 27-05-S

A resolution to encourage the University to adopt and implement a policy protecting students' academic freedom.

Whereas: The free and civil exchange of ideas among students and faculty is conducive and essential to the health and mission of the University, and

Whereas: The protection of students' academic freedom is imperative in this exchange, and

Whereas: No policy has been enacted to protect students' academic freedom, and

Whereas: The current University policy regarding academic freedom pertains to faculty only, and

Whereas: The 67th Congress of the Student Government Association recognizes students' rights to academic freedom, as well as the rights to freedom from discrimination on the basis of political or religious beliefs, and

Whereas: The University should also recognize this academic freedom, seek to defend this freedom, and facilitate a grievance procedure to protect students' rights against violation of this freedom.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE 67TH CONGRESS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF MTSU THAT:

Section 1: The University shall adopt and implement a policy protecting students' academic freedom.

Section 2: The policy shall ensure that all students enrolled at the University have the right:

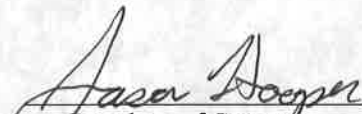
- (a) To expect that their academic freedom will not be infringed upon by instructors who create a hostile environment toward their political or religious beliefs, or who introduce controversial matter as a part of course work that is substantially unrelated to the subject of study;
- (b) To expect that they will be graded solely on the basis of their reasoned answers and appropriate knowledge of the subjects they study, and that they shall not be discriminated against on the basis of their political or religious beliefs;
- (c) To expect that the University shall distribute student activity fee funds on a viewpoint neutral basis and shall maintain a posture of neutrality with respect to substantive political or religious differences.

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Section 3: The University shall install a formal grievance procedure by which students may seek redress for violation of the rights outlined in Section 2.

Section 4: The University shall publish this policy along with the grievance procedure in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, the Rights & Responsibilities Handbook, and on the University web site.

Sponsored by: **Senator Justin Owen**
 Senator Lizzie Miller
 Senator Tyler Smith



Speaker of Senate



SGA President



VP Student Affairs