

**Resolution in Support of Academic Freedom and Free Expression as Foundational to a Culture of Care**

**Proposed Effective Date:** Spring 2026

**Whereas** the values of academic freedom in teaching, research, and learning; freedom of expression for all members of the UCCS community; and the integrity of scholarly inquiry are foundational to UCCS's mission and are affirmed in Regent Laws 5.B.2 and 1.E.3; and,

**Whereas** UCCS is committed by its strategic plan to a culture of care<sup>1</sup>, which is built on "respect and inclusion" and includes fostering a "supportive campus environment that embraces a culture of belonging, engagement, and learning for all, including individuals with intersecting backgrounds, social identities, abilities, and cultures" in order to "prepare students, faculty, staff, and community members for both local and global multicultural realities"; and,

**Whereas** institutions of higher learning nationwide have faced increasing pressures that threaten academic freedom, freedom of expression, and the integrity of scholarly inquiry; and,

**Whereas** such pressures have heightened concerns among UCCS faculty, staff, students, and community members regarding the adequacy and clarity of institutional support for academic freedom, freedom of expression, and the integrity of scholarly inquiry; and,

**Whereas** such pressures and concerns undermine a culture of care through undermining senses of support, belonging, respect, and inclusion; and,

**Whereas** such pressures and concerns detrimentally affect the ability of UCCS faculty to prepare students for "both local and global multicultural realities"; therefore,

**Be it resolved** that the Faculty Assembly Women's Committee moves that the University of Colorado Colorado Springs Faculty Assembly:

1. Affirms its unequivocal support for academic freedom in teaching, research, and learning, freedom of expression for all members of the UCCS community, and the integrity of scholarly inquiry;
2. Affirms that academic freedom, freedom of expression, and the integrity of scholarly inquiry in all their aspects are fundamental to developing and sustaining a culture of care;
3. Calls on UCCS leadership to reaffirm to the University community as well as the broader public its commitment to academic freedom, freedom of expression, and the integrity of scholarly inquiry, making clear that disagreement with the content of faculty scholarship,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://belonging.uccs.edu/>

Faculty Assembly Women's Committee, Notice of Motion  
**Regarding Academic Freedom and Free Expression**  
February 2026

teaching, and expression, absent violations of law or University policy, does not constitute grounds for termination, discipline, or institutional distancing; and

4. Calls on UCCS leadership to commit to providing safety, legal, and logistical support as needed to all UCCS faculty targeted for the content of their scholarship, teaching, expression, and/or public engagement.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Kling, FAWC Chair  
on behalf of the Faculty Assembly Women's Committee