Date: April 17, 2015

Memo to: John Sexton, President
        David W. McLaughlin, Provost

From: Raghu Sundaram
      Chairperson, T-Faculty Senators Council
      A/Y 2014-2015

Subject: T-Faculty Senators Council Resolution regarding Academic Freedom

At the April 16, 2015 meeting of the T-Faculty Senators Council, the attached resolution was approved.

cc: Linda Mills, Vice Chancellor for Global Programs and University Life
    Richard S. Baum, Chief of Staff to the President
    Diane Yu, Deputy President
    Carol Morrow, Senior Associate Provost/Chief of Staff to the Provost
    Ann Marie Mauro, C-FSC Chairperson
    Randy Mowry, C-FSC Vice Chairperson
    Allen Mincer, T-FSC Vice Chairperson and Chair-Elect
    Mitchell Kane, T-FSC Secretary
T-FSC Resolution regarding Academic Freedom
Approved 4/16/15

At the April 16, 2015 meeting of the T-Faculty Senators Council, the Council approved the following resolution:

Resolution:

Denials of visas, often arbitrary or without reason, or subjection to humiliating documentation requirements are a feature of immigration policy practiced by many countries. These denials may not all be morally equivalent; genuine security concerns may sometimes make it difficult for governments to publicly explain their actions. However, the freedom to pursue one's teaching and pursue and publish one's research, is at the very heart of the university enterprise and the T-FSC condemns the use by any government of visa denials and travel restrictions to curb freedom of academic pursuits.

The T-FSC urges the NYU Administration to do everything in its power to assist those NYU faculty whose research has been hampered by visa issues or travel restrictions, and to especially ensure that travel between the university's New York campus, international campuses and study-abroad sites by the university's faculty remain smooth and unhindered. The T-FSC also urges the administration to gather and provide faculty with information about the extent to which this has been a problem, and to develop recommendations on how faculty can avail themselves of NYU resources before travel to minimize potential difficulties.