



New York University
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Faculty Senators Council
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Resolution: In support of our School of Medicine Colleagues, September, 2009
Approved September 17, 2009

The Faculty Senators Council reiterates its earlier [May 1, 2008] resolution regarding procedures affecting the Faculty of the NYU School of Medicine. In particular, as we have stated before, it is our understanding of the provisions of the Faculty Handbook that tenure protect faculty members' economic security. Second, we encourage Administrators and Faculty to use established procedures and that consultation and good faith collegial governance be followed going forward. Finally, take the position that new policies should not be retroactively applied.

We continue to hope that a collegial resolution of any differences between the SOM faculty and its administration will soon be achieved.

Text of Resolution of the Faculty Senators Council
Approved May 1, 2008

In concert with our faculty colleagues at the NYU School of Medicine [SoM] and those who serve on the SoM Faculty Council, the members of the NYU Faculty Senators Council reaffirm the central importance of academic excellence in all responsibilities associated with the faculty of every unit and School at New York University and the critical importance of the institution of tenure to its achievement. As our University Faculty Handbook asserts under Title I, Item III.: The Case for Academic Tenure: "Academic tenure is a means to certain ends, specifically: (1) freedom of teaching and research; and (2) a sufficient degree of economic security to make the profession of teaching attractive to men and women of ability (p. 21)." Accordingly, the FSC believes it is clear that tenure without economic security is meaningless.

In addition, the Faculty Senators Council reasserts that, as Schools and faculties address the issues and problems with which they may be confronted, established due process and negotiation are the means for resolving whatever disagreements may arise. The Council believes strongly that unilateral imposition of modifications of existing practices and obligations involving tenure or retroactively altering agreements regarding tenure and institutional salary undermine the mutual trust that has been the bedrock of this University's remarkable growth and success, and that will be essential as the faculty and the administration together face the challenges of achieving greater excellence.