



# VCU

Faculty Senate

## **A Resolution Affirming Faculty Compliance with Civil Rights Protections for ALL Students.**

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) faculty efforts have continually affirmed Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution;

**WHEREAS**, VCU faculty members play a critical role in fostering academic inquiry, promoting diverse perspectives, and ensuring a robust exchange of ideas within institutions of higher education;

**WHEREAS**, VCU faculty uphold their responsibility to create inclusive learning environments for our diverse student population (particularly given VCU's status as a Minority Serving Institution) that encourage critical thinking, respectful dialogue, and the pursuit of knowledge without fear of censorship or reprisal;

**WHEREAS**, any claims or actions that seek to unjustly restrict faculty expression or academic content risk undermining the core principles of higher education and weakening institutional commitments to intellectual freedom and diversity of thought;

**RESOLVED**, that the VCU Faculty Senate affirms that faculty have complied with and continue to comply with the Supreme Court's 2023 decision in *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard* (SFFA), which clarified that the use of racial preferences in college admissions is unlawful, while also maintaining a commitment to fostering diverse and inclusive learning environments, which support the needs of all students, in accordance with constitutional and legal protections.

**RESOLVED**, that the VCU Faculty Senate calls on the VCU Administration and Board of Visitors to affirm in its decision-making faculty's ongoing compliance with federal law and jurisprudence and commitment to serving the needs of VCU's diverse student population.

Approved by 80% of the Faculty Senate on March 19, 2025. Respectfully presented to President Rao, Provost Sotiropoulos, Rector Haymore and the Board of Visitors on March 21, 2025.