

Motion Presented to Faculty Senate 11/28/17

Binghamton University Faculty Senate Statement
“Our Mutual Principles of Free Expression and Inclusiveness”

The Faculty Senate of Binghamton University is concerned at a number of recent disturbing trends in American society. As members of that society we are appalled by the promotion of demonizing rhetoric and restrictive policies designed to marginalize and denounce particular groups of people. As educators, we are alarmed at the parallels between racist policies in this nation's past and the current rise of anti-immigrant, anti-Islamic, and anti-Semitic ideologies, as well as a resurgent culture of violence and intimidation. And as academics, we are chilled at the promulgation of a “post-factual” stance aimed at discrediting and undermining the pursuit of rational inquiry and the value of expertise.

In the face of such moral and intellectual threats, we, the Faculty Senate at Binghamton University, affirm our commitment to the American ideal of inclusiveness and to the fundamental values of free expression and the critical evaluation of truth claims. We therefore oppose prejudicial bans on travel and immigration. We denounce the vilification of the press, the suppression of scientific research, and the erosion of American institutions dedicated to education, culture, the arts