

1. WHEREAS, on Tuesday, 19 January 2021, the Kansas Board of Regents unanimously passed an amendment to policy that attempts to address budgetary shortfalls owing to COVID-19 at the Regents universities; and
2. WHEREAS this policy creates a temporary measure that will allow those institutions to dismiss employees, including tenured faculty, without cause or university procedures until December 31, 2022; and
3. WHEREAS the Regents failed to engage in the shared governance necessary for such a policy, and
4. WHEREAS the policy demonstrates a dismissal of the individual university policies around financial decision making and shared governance at individual institutions, and
5. WHEREAS Wichita State University's administration, faculty, staff, and students are committed to shared governance in all aspects of our university,
6. WHEREAS this policy places intellectual freedom for teaching and research at risk by denying due process; and
7. WHEREAS the American Association of University Professors contend that "freedom and economic security, hence, tenure, are indispensable to the success of an institution in fulfilling its obligations to its students and to society"; and
8. WHEREAS this policy promotes a campus community of fear and distrust in the regents for faculty and staff;
9. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the faculty of Wichita State University denounce the Kansas Board of Regents' COVID-Related Force Reduction Policy; and
10. THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the faculty of Wichita State University call upon the Regents to rescind this policy.