



Jonathan Holloway, President
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Winants Hall • 7 College Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Web: rutgers.edu • Email: president@rutgers.edu
Phone: 848-932-7454 • Fax: 732-932-0308

July 28, 2022

Vicki L. Hewitt, Ed.D.
University Senate
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
335 George Street, Suite 1250
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Dear Dr. Hewitt,

I am writing in response to the University Senate's Resolution on Academic Freedom and Racial, Gender, and Social Justice. In it the Senate calls on EVPAA Prabhas Moghe and me "to affirm that they reject any attempts by bodies external to the faculty to restrict or dictate university curriculum on any matter, including matters related to racial, gender, and social justice, and that they will stand firm against any encroachment on faculty authority. We also call upon them to take appropriate actions in the public sphere that will position Rutgers as a leader in the national campaign in the defense of academic freedom from the ever increasing, politically motivated attacks we are experiencing."

As you note in the resolution, Rutgers does make the advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion a key priority, and we will continue to do so. EVPAA Moghe and I also believe deeply that curricular decisions are the responsibility of the faculty. I am often asked, both within and beyond Rutgers, to try to influence or endorse specific courses or curricula. In every case, I state clearly that those decisions appropriately belong to the faculty. I do not intend to change that response.

Thank you to the Executive Committee for sharing this resolution with me.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Holloway

cc: Prabhas Moghe, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs