

Report from the Faculty Governance Committee
For the March 14, 2024 Faculty Meeting

tantae molis erat Romanam condere gentem. — Vergil, *Aeneid* 1.33
“So great an effort it took to establish Rome as a nation.”

At the March Faculty Meeting, FGC will be proposing three resolutions, which, while not quite so “epic” as Aeneas’ founding of what would eventually become the Roman Empire, are still momentous in their own way. The first initiates an exciting experiment in faculty governance, for which FGC has received encouragement from the faculty as a whole and from President Singer herself; the second brings to fruition months of effort on the part of the Academic Freedom Working Group and FGC’s Academic Freedom Subcommittee, informed by feedback from table discussions held at the November Faculty Meeting and from conversations co-sponsored by CILA, IFC, FGC, and the Lutheran Center. These resolutions have truly been group efforts, and we are grateful to everyone who has contributed.

FGC Resolution 23/24-07 - Faculty Chairperson *pro tempore*

The Faculty Governance Committee moves that the faculty endorse the appointment by President Singer of a Faculty Chairperson *pro tempore* to run the April and May faculty meetings on an experimental basis. With the endorsement of the faculty, FGC will conduct a nomination and review process to recommend a member of the faculty to the President to serve in this capacity for the remainder of the 2023-24 academic year.

FGC Resolution 23/24-08 - To Revise *Faculty Manual* References to Academic Freedom

FGC Resolution 23/24-09 - To Endorse Statement of Principles

I encourage you to take a careful look at the rationales that are posted along with these three resolutions. Don’t be deterred by their length: they are well worth your reading!

FGC continues to discuss, among other things, a proposal to dedicate contingent faculty seats on standing committees, a proposal to move the evaluation of promotion-only dossiers from fall to spring, the implications of the word “renewal” in connection with term appointments, and a proposal to establish an Academic Freedom Council. Please feel free to send us other matters that you think need to be added to our agenda this spring.

Sincerely,

Anne H. Groton, FGC Chair