



The Faculty Senate of the University of Southern Indiana values freedom of inquiry, exploration, debate, and critical thinking in the production and dissemination of knowledge. These principles are the bedrocks of education, fostering effective learning environments that encourage open and honest dialogues both in and outside the classroom. If enacted, Senate Bill 202 will unnecessarily limit the academic freedom of faculty to develop the curriculum and resources needed to prepare students for success in our diverse and global society. Furthermore, this bill will make recruiting and retaining qualified faculty and students more difficult, exacerbating the shortage of qualified educators and the enrollment challenges facing higher education institutions in Indiana. Finally, Senate Bill 202 adds another layer of administrative review to the tenure process and cedes oversight to the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, eroding a cornerstone of higher education and contributing to bureaucratic bloat and expense. The Faculty Senate continues to support faculty in promoting USI's mission of providing students with a world class education and creating lifetime learners.