



OFFICE OF THE FACULTY COUNCIL

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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April 10, 2018

President Gregory L. Fenves  
The University of Texas at Austin  
MAI 400  
Campus Mail Code: G3400

Dear President Fenves,

Enclosed for your consideration and action is a resolution from the Faculty Council urging the University of Texas to join the Scholars at Risk Network. The resolution was unanimously endorsed by the Faculty Council at its meeting yesterday and respectfully requests a response from you concerning the matter.

Please let me know if you have questions or if I can provide other information concerning this item.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan W. Friedman".

Alan W. Friedman, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

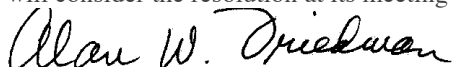
AWF:dlr Enclosure

cc: Carlos Martinez, Chief of Staff, Office of the President  
Susan Lamborghini, Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Office of the President  
Cynthia M. Sanchez, Executive Assistant-Program Coordinator, Office of the President  
Michelle George, Administrative Manager for Faculty Affairs, Provost's Office

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**RESOLUTION FROM THE FACULTY COUNCIL TO URGE THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT  
AUSTIN TO JOIN THE SCHOLARS AT RISK NETWORK (SAR)**

On behalf of the Faculty Council, D. Max Snodderly (Professor, Neuroscience) submitted the following resolution urging The University of Texas at Austin to join the Scholars at Risk Network. The Faculty Council will consider the resolution at its meeting on April 9, 2018.



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary

General Faculty and Faculty Council

The University of Texas at Austin

Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

## **RESOLUTION FROM THE FACULTY COUNCIL TO URGE THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN TO JOIN THE SCHOLARS AT RISK NETWORK (SAR)**

The Faculty Council urges that the University of Texas at Austin join the Scholars at Risk Network (SAR) to protect scholars and academic freedom (<https://www.scholarsatrisk.org/about/>) in the global community.

Further, we recommend that a consultative committee of faculty, staff, and students be constituted as an advisory body to recommend how to best assist threatened scholars seeking opportunities to continue their scholarly work without grave risks and intimidation.

### Background

The mission of Scholars at Risk (SAR) is to promote academic freedom worldwide and to protect scholars who are at grave risk of intimidation, imprisonment, or harm to themselves and their families. This mission is accomplished by arranging temporary academic positions at member institutions so that scholars can continue to pursue their work until conditions improve and they can return to their home countries.

The most prestigious universities in the world are included among the 529 universities, scholarly institutions, and professional associations in the SAR network. Only 6 institutions in Texas belong to the network, and we would be the first campus of the University of Texas System to join it. Joining the SAR network is aligned with the goal of expanding the global engagement of UT Austin.

### Benefits

Joining this network will enhance our international reputation by confirming our commitment to free inquiry and academic freedom. These scholars come from diverse backgrounds and many regions of the globe. If we offer them opportunities to participate in our academic activities, they will bring cultural and intellectual diversity to our academic environment and enhance the experience of both students and faculty. Finally, learning of their experiences will serve to remind us how fortunate we are to enjoy the freedoms that we sometimes take for granted.

### Membership Costs

There are two levels of membership.

- Sustaining Membership (\$5,000 USD/year): This contribution supports costs of Scholars at Risk services to scholars and institutions.
- Contributing Membership (\$1,000 USD/year): This level is intended to encourage wide participation in the network.

### Commitments

As a member of the network we must designate a primary representative to communicate with the SAR office and network, especially to receive and disseminate information about scholars seeking temporary assistance. It will be important to identify good matches between scholars seeking assistance and academic programs at UT that will be enriched by inclusion of the scholars' knowledge and experience. It is for this purpose that we recommend the establishment of an advisory committee that includes students as well as faculty and staff.

Opportunities that could be offered to SAR scholars include visiting lectureships, temporary replacement of faculty on leave, participation in research programs, special performances, creation of courses not currently available in the curriculum, or a faculty appointment if circumstances justified it. Participation in any specific SAR activity, including hosting scholars, will be at our discretion.



**DIVISION OF DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN**

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*Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement  
110 Inner Campus Drive • Stop G1050 • Austin, TX 78712-1700 • (512) 471-3212 • Fax (512) 471-0819*

TO: Faculty Council

FROM: Leonard N. Moore, Ph. D.  
Interim Vice President  
Diversity and Community Engagement

DATE: April 4, 2018

RE: Support of Scholars at Risk (SAR)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "L. Moore", written over the "FROM:" field.

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Scholars at Risk is a global consortium of higher education institutions, the work of which is to facilitate free communication, and opportunities for research and teaching positions at member institutions for threatened scholars. Becoming a member of SAR is consistent with our global initiatives and our institutional core value to transform lives for the benefit of society.

Thus the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement supports SAR membership for the University of Texas at Austin, offers to be the institutional entity that hosts the membership and campus activities associated with SAR membership, and accepts the fiduciary responsibility for maintaining annual membership.