



To: The Faculty Senate of Western Colorado University

From: CU Denver Faculty Assembly

CC: Matthew Aronson, Chair, Western Colorado University Faculty Senate

Re: Senate Resolution to Establish a Mutual Defense Compact for Colorado Higher Ed

Date: May 6, 2025

To the Faculty Senate at WCU,

Thank you for sharing your recent resolution to Establish a Mutual Defense Compact for Colorado Institutions of Higher Education to Defend Academic Freedom, Institutional Integrity, and the Research Enterprise.

We agree that current threats to higher education are jeopardizing our core teaching and research missions, chilling free speech, and undermining academic freedom on campuses across Colorado and the nation, including our own. Politically motivated actions by federal bodies not only run counter to our own deeply held principles and values, but they threaten the welfare and future success of our students, colleagues, and the university at large.

The CU Denver Faculty Assembly does hereby endorse your resolution and join you in this call for higher education leaders at CU and across the state to form a Mutual Academic Defense Compact among all Colorado universities. We further encourage Colorado higher education leaders, including our leadership at CU, to sign onto the [AACU letter](#) opposing current federal overreach in regard to higher education and calling for constructive engagement and the preservation of institutional and academic freedoms.

We are stronger together. Weathering dark times requires collaboration and mutual support.

Thank you for reaching out to the CU Denver Faculty Assembly and for your strong advocacy for higher education during this chaotic and uncertain time.

Sincerely,

The CU Denver Faculty Assembly

(Approved for distribution to the full Assembly by the Executive Committee on 4/28/2025; approved by the Faculty Assembly on 5/6/2025.)