Resolution of the MU Faculty Council

Commanding the Sun to Hide Its Face on August 21, 2017

Whereas, in times past the authority of the Faculty Council was unquestioned, and the mere thought of its awesome power caused mortals to quake with fear,

Whereas, in recent years the light of shared governance has dimmed, causing some to question whether the power of the Council indeed matches the reports of legendary tales,

Whereas, the start of the academic year is an ideal time to demonstrate that the stories are true,

Whereas, the first day of classes in the Fall 2017 semester is set for Monday, August 21,

Whereas, all humanity recognizes the power of the sun, upon whose energy all life on Earth depends,

Whereas, the sun anchors the solar system, keeping the planets in its orbit, dancing like puppets held by the sun’s gravitational strings,

Whereas, unlike the inconstant moon, that monthly changes in her circled orb, the sun rises and sets daily, in an unceasing pattern of which the memory of humankind knows not the contrary,

Whereas, the sun has repeatedly bested the boastful and arrogant, melting the wings of Icarus and spurning the control of Phaethon,

Whereas, those untutored in the intricacies of faculty authority might scoff at the prospect of Faculty Council affecting the sun’s radiance,

Whereas, the sun’s obedience to Council’s orders would remove all doubts and settle all disputes,

Now be it resolved that the MU Faculty Council on University Policy hereby commands the sun to hide its face in the City of Columbia, Missouri on August 21, 2017, shrouding the city in shadow,

Now be it further resolved that after nearly ninety minutes of partial darkening, the complete darkening of the sun shall begin at 1:12 p.m.,

Now be it further resolved that to avoid the inspiration of mass panic among the populace, the sun is commanded to begin revealing itself and resuming its normal behavior after approximately two and one-half minutes of obedience to Council’s demand for complete darkness.

Look on our works, ye mighty, and despair!

(Approved by Faculty Council at its February 23, 2017 meeting.)