

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY
FACULTY COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

Tragic events that highlighted racial violence and continued mistrust surrounding the events in Ferguson, Missouri and across the country spurred Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin in December 2014 to host a “listening session” as a place for the University of Missouri community, especially students, to voice to their experiences about those occurrences.

That session prompted an outpouring of feelings and made clear that the racial and social turmoil in Ferguson, and deaths in New York City and Cleveland, Ohio, are not the only things concerning students. They spoke about their own experiences with racial discrimination in Missouri and across the country, but principally they focused on the MU campus. Students of color aggressively voiced their displeasure with what they see as a climate of exclusion and disrespect at MU. Student leaders representing a range of groups proposed to the Chancellor a list of changes to foster a more racially and ethnically inclusive environment.

Faculty Council commends the Chancellor for promoting dialogue about this difficult issue and recognizes that more such outreach is needed. The Council supports the Chancellor as he continues to expand his leadership efforts and to allocate the human and financial resources necessary to affect the positive cultural change that is required for everyone to feel safe, respected, and welcome at MU. Faculty Council recognizes that the Chancellor will need faculty support for the necessary accountability and incentives to be put in place.

The Faculty Council further condemns all acts and expressions of intolerant attitudes, whether individual or institutional, violating the Mizzou core values of Respect, Discovery, Responsibility, and Excellence.

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