**Motion on Moratorium on FG 3.1.b.1.i**

*Whereas retaining meritorious and needed faculty members is a high priority to ensure the excellence of academic programs and to support our students’ academic achievement;*

*Whereas disruptions in the staffing of academic programs bring significant risk to programs and curricula and should be avoided unless justified and necessary;*

*Whereas respected colleagues, who have served in a “contract” position for the past five or six years, will be forced to leave the university due to the provision of FG 3.1.b.1.i limiting renewals of the terms of contract faculty;*

*Whereas the hiring freeze resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted the ability of departments to maintain necessary levels of staffing without allowing a corresponding adjustment in the amount of time “contract hires” are allowed to serve;*

*The Faculty Senate requests a moratorium on FG 3.1.b.1.i for the current academic year in order to allow the Senate body to consider how the Faculty Guide can best serve the goal of hiring and retaining excellent colleagues.  During the period of the moratorium, Faculty members in the final year in contract positions may have their contracts renewed with the approval of their departments and dean, and all faculty members currently serving in contract positions will have an additional year added to the five year limit on their employment, also with the approval of the department and dean.*