

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate

FROM: B. Buldt
Chair, Executive Committee

DATE: 27 August 2020

SUBJ: Endorsement of Rachel Barney's Anti-Authoritarian Code of Conduct

Endorsement of Rachel Barney's Anti-Authoritarian Code of Conduct

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Faculty of Purdue University Fort Wayne grants Voting Faculty powers to recommend policies concerning "student conduct and discipline," as well as the "welfare... of the faculty," and "to present its views concerning any matter pertaining to the conduct and welfare of PFW;" and,

WHEREAS the upcoming 2020 election may well prove to be the most divisive and polarizing one in recent U.S. history, especially amid increasingly toxic discourses targeting immigrants, refugees, racial minorities, and other disenfranchised identities and groups; and,

WHEREAS faculty, and the educational process construed more broadly, hold special responsibilities both in upholding basic principles of reasoned discourse and in ensuring and protecting the rights of all who come to a university to pursue an education; and,

WHEREAS, those who attend a university to pursue an education have the right to do so, free from fear, threats of retaliation and harassment, and targeted enforcement by way of unjust laws based purely on identity-driven hatred meant to target individuals simply because of who they are;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Fort Wayne Senate endorse and adopt the following Anti-Authoritarian Code of Conduct, originally drafted by University of Toronto philosopher Rachel Barney; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fort Wayne Senate urge faculty, staff, students, and other members of the campus community to freely promote and publicize both this document, and the values and behaviors expressed in it, as inherent to the principles, values and behaviors of any academic institution:

(cont'd)

1. I will not aid in the registration, rounding-up, or internment of students and colleagues occurring solely based on their politics, religious beliefs, race, ethnicity, orientation, gender expression, or any other basis of identity.
2. I will not aid in the marginalization, exclusion, or deportation of both documented and undocumented students and colleagues.
3. I will, as much as I can, discourage and defend against the bullying and harassment of vulnerable students and colleagues targeted for important aspects of their identity (such as race, gender, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, etc.).
4. I will not aid government or law enforcement in activities which violate the U.S. Constitution or other local, state, or federal law.
5. I will not aid in government surveillance. I will not inform.
6. As a teacher and researcher, I will not allow private or government interests to buy me off or to intimidate me. I will present the state of research in my field accurately, whether it is what the university, local, state, or federal officials want to hear. I will challenge others when they lie.
7. I will not shy away from my commitment to academic values: truth, objectivity, free inquiry, and rational debate. I will challenge others when they engage in behavior contrary to these values.
8. As an administrator, I will defend my students, faculty, and non-academic staff. I will not allow expulsion, firing, disciplining, harassment, or marginalization of individuals targeted simply for who they are, or for beliefs they hold. I will speak up for academic freedom. I will insist on the autonomy of my institution.
9. I will stand with my colleagues at other institutions and defend their rights and freedoms.
10. I will be fair and unbiased in the classroom, in grading, and in all my dealings with all my students, including those who disagree with me politically.