

**SALISBURY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MOTION**

Submit this form to the Faculty Senate President

TITLE: **Adopting the definition of “BELONGING” in relation to DEI**

SENATOR PROPOSING MOTION: Memo Diriker

SENATOR SECONDING MOTION: Vitus Ozoke

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**MOTION:**

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate adopt the following definition of “**BELONGING:**”

**Belonging is a person's perception of acceptance, and feeling uniquely seen, heard, valued, and safe. Belonging is the desired and natural outcome of DEI endeavors.**

Furthermore, we request that the definition of “Belonging” be added to Salisbury University’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion webpage.

This resolution does **NOT** change or add to the Spring 2023 Faculty Senate motion regarding the requirement to include DEI in teaching evaluations of faculty.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

As was discussed in the *Faculty Development Day* on 8/23 (“Establishing a Community of Belonging”) and as mentioned by Provost Couch at the *Provost’s Welcome* event that afternoon, “Belonging” is a critical factor in promoting success, engagement, and well-being for students, faculty, and staff at a university. We all want experiences that support, connect, and empower us. Salisbury University helps us cultivate belonging by celebrating differences, welcoming contributions, fostering broader connections, and ensuring inclusion and equity. Simply stated, DEI = B.

**ANTICIPATED IMPACT:**

Negative: **NONE**

Positive: **Shows institutional commitment to “BELONGING.”**

Is this a recommendation to the Provost? Yes: \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a recommendation to someone else? No \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, to \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE: Number of Senators Present:

Motion Passes or Fails: