

RICE UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL
November 3, 2003

At its regular meeting on November 3, 2003 the Rice University Faculty Council introduced a resolution, discussed, and finally unanimously adopted it as follows:

Resolution on Educational Diversity

WHEREAS, the Faculty Council concurs in the resolution passed by Rice's Board of Trustees on October 2, 2003, reiterating the educational importance to the university of diversity and cultural inclusiveness and reflecting Rice's commitment to broadly-conceived educational diversity; and

WHEREAS, there is a significant body of research demonstrating the educational advantages of fostering a learning environment in which students interact in a meaningful way in the classroom, residential college and campus community with individuals whose interests, talents, experiences, beliefs and world-views differ from their own. This research is borne out by our own experiences in the classroom and laboratory, where students must be willing to test their ideas and views against those of others. In order for Rice University to achieve its educational goals of preparing its students to live, work, serve and lead in an increasing diverse world, Rice must continue its efforts to foster a diverse learning environment. This includes considering race and ethnicity along with the many other factors already considered in the admission process to achieve educational diversity on campus. In adding consideration of race and ethnicity, we encourage the University periodically to review the results to determine whether these factors, or any others, should be adjusted to better achieve the goal of educational diversity and to discuss the outcome of these reviews with the Faculty Council,

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Council adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Rice University Faculty Council supports the resolution of the Rice University Board of Trustees and, like the Board, remains convinced that diversity of all types, including race, ethnicity and geography, enriches the learning environment at Rice for all students and aids students in functioning as citizens in a complex, diverse and changing world.