

# **FAS Senate**

**AN ELECTED BODY OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND  
SCIENCES  
YALE UNIVERSITY**

**April 28, 2022**

**Faculty of Arts and Sciences Senate Resolution  
Regarding the University's response to the China Initiative and Policies related to  
inquiries from Federal Agencies  
APPROVED April 28, 2022**

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of Yale University (FASS) was established as an elected representative body by a vote of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences;

WHEREAS, Yale's commitment to Excellence in Teaching and Research are core values that require attracting and retaining top faculty internationally;

WHEREAS, the China Initiative, started under the Trump Administration by the United States Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and Federal agencies including the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in November 2018, has been criticized as being racially biased and disproportionate, and concluded in name under Biden Administration in February 2022;

WHEREAS, the FBI and/or the NIH investigated several Yale faculty and community members of Chinese heritage as a part of the China initiative, resulting in at least one Yale faculty member placed on academic leave by the University related to these investigations;

WHEREAS, programs like the China initiative may encompass faculty and students beyond China, as other countries can be labeled as "nation-state threats" by the United States government;

WHEREAS, Yale's recruitment of excellent faculty has been affected by reports of Yale's response to the China Initiative, causing stress within the Yale community, impacting graduate student recruitment/training and Yale's Belonging initiative negatively, and likely leading to loss of existing and future faculty; and

THEREFORE, the FAS Senate of Yale University resolves as follows:

RESOLVED, that the FASS urges the University to provide transparency regarding past and ongoing investigation of Yale community members related to the China Initiative, and the University's response to these investigations; and

RESOLVED, that the FASS urges the University to establish a committee to evaluate, define and protect the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of faculty and administration in cases involving the investigation of faculty by outside agencies.