



FOUNDED 1892 • CHARTERED 1929

AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

## **RESOLUTION OF THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE SUPPORTING THE INSTITUTION OF TENURE AT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN TEXAS**

WHEREAS, the Texas Academy of Science is the original and longest-standing organization of scientists and science educators in the State of Texas, with membership consisting of public and private university faculty and students, K-12 educators, government and agency personnel, and individuals in the private sector, and

WHEREAS, the Texas Academy of Science is an apolitical and non-partisan organization whose mission, in part, is to promote scientific research and education in Texas colleges, universities, and K-12 classrooms, and

WHEREAS, **tenure** represents an indefinite appointment awarded by colleges and universities that can be terminated only for cause or under extraordinary circumstances, and

WHEREAS, tenure is awarded only after rigorous, formal review of an individual's teaching, research, and service activities and is maintained via regular, intensive post-tenure reviews, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of tenure is to protect academic freedom and enable research, education, and innovation to proceed based on evidence and independent from influence by corporate, religious, government, individual, or other entities outside of the college or university, and

WHEREAS, free inquiry and investigation, freedom of speech, and open dissent represent cornerstones of student learning and the advancement of knowledge, which in turn produce graduates who will serve and benefit society, and

WHEREAS, tenure promotes stability in the governance and organization of colleges and universities, which in turn promotes long-term pursuit of knowledge, education, and student mentorship, and

WHEREAS, tenure provides a mechanism for the recruitment and retention of world-class scholars to serve as faculty at Texas colleges and universities, which in turn promotes recruitment of world-class students,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TEXAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**, that the Academy supports the institution of tenure at Texas colleges and universities for its benefit to academic freedom, student education, reputation of Texas colleges and universities, and Texas society at large.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THE 1st of April 2022.**

**Francisco Gonzalez-Lima, PhD, President**

**Matthew A. Barnes, PhD, President Elect**

**Robert Kane, PhD, Vice President**