

CHARGE TO THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM & RESPONSIBILITY, FREE EXPRESSION, AND ENGAGEMENT

Academic freedom and responsibility, free expression and belonging, and constructive engagement with different viewpoints are fundamental to the life of the university and critical to its core missions of education, research, and service. Although these commitments should not be subject to the vagaries of political moments or diminished by the passage of time alone, they are appropriately the object of regular reflection, examination, affirmation, and enhancement. In consultation with the President's and Provost's Offices, the Academic Council (via ECAC) will charge and assemble a faculty committee to examine the state of academic freedom and responsibility, free expression and belonging, and constructive engagement at Duke. Among other things, the committee will:

- (1) **review** institutional structures, governance policies, practices, and educational programs both at Duke and at peer institutions, which bear on free, open, respectful, and responsible scholarly inquiry, teaching, and service;
- (2) **examine** whether these structures, policies, practices, and programs honor Duke's commitment to the robust, respectful, and responsible exchange of ideas in a community that prizes and aspires to safeguard the belonging and flourishing of all its members; and
- (3) **describe** opportunities to affirm, deepen, and expand Duke's commitment to academic freedom and responsibility, free expression and belonging, and constructive engagement in a pluralistic community, and where appropriate, make recommendations concerning changes to existing institutional structures, policy, and practices.

The Committee will begin work in the Spring of 2024 and will issue a report jointly to the Academic Council, the Provost, and the President in the 2024-2025 academic year. In conducting its work, the Committee should consult and have access to a broad range of stakeholders, including faculty, deans, administrators, trustees, students, staff, and others.