

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ADDITION OF A CITIZENSHIP QUESTION TO THE 2020 CENSUS

Faculty Senate, May 2, 2018

WHEREAS The Commerce Department has announced its intention to add a question concerning citizenship status to the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS The addition of a citizenship question has not and will not be included in field tests that are used to validate the survey instrument; and

WHEREAS It is reasonable to anticipate that such a question will result in systematic undercounting of immigrants, creating serious sampling bias in the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS A systematic undercounting of immigrants would also render overall population figures unreliable; and

WHEREAS Sampling bias in the 2020 Census will further undermine the validity of future research that uses data from the 2020 Census; and

WHEREAS The Census is a key source of data used in social science, health, and environment research; and

WHEREAS The research produced by faculty and researchers throughout this country contributes not only to the advancement of knowledge but also to the development of programs, initiatives and interventions to serve the public good.

BE IT RESOLVED That the Faculty Senate strongly condemns the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 Census for its effect of diminishing the reliability of Census data and research.