

SUNY Potsdam Faculty Senate Resolution of Support for Ukraine

Whereas: The Russian armed forces under the orders of Russian President Vladimir Putin have violently invaded Ukrainian sovereign territory, with massive damage and thousands of people dead on both sides.

Whereas: The unprovoked and unnecessary invasion has resulted in the largest displacement of civilians in Europe since WWII, with over 1.3 million Ukrainians forced to flee their homes and seek safety in the west of Ukraine or in the European Union. This wave of refugees includes huge numbers of students from Ukrainian universities, including international students, many of whom are of color, from nations all over the world who were studying in Ukraine when the invasion began.

Whereas: Universities and other higher education centers across the nation of Ukraine have been forced to close and many of their students called into military service,

Whereas: SUNY Potsdam and, in particular the Department of Business Administration, has had an ongoing relationship with Ukrainian universities in Kyiv, Kharkiv, and Kherson that includes shared classes, joint grant-funded research, and faculty exchanges since 2005.

Whereas: This conflict threatens to expose Russian citizens living in the USA or people of Russian origin in our communities to transferred emotions of anger and hostility.

Be it Resolved:

The faculty of the State University of New York at Potsdam express their support for the people of Ukraine during their time of danger and pain and send condolences for the huge loss of lives and property in this ongoing conflict. We deplore the violent aggression of forces controlled by the administration of President Vladimir Putin, while recognizing that the Russian people are powerless to constrain these actions and may be unaware of the truth of the situation. We call upon all people in the world to do whatever they can to support a just and peaceful resolution to this crisis and an end to the death of innocent civilians in Ukraine.