



FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION

FSR 2021-2022-002

I. Resolution Name:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NATIVE LANDS AND CONTINUED SUPPORT AND RESPECT FOR THE TRIBAL PEOPLE OF OKLAHOMA

II. Stated Resolution:

Be it RESOLVED that the University of Central Oklahoma Faculty Senate recognizes that our campus is located on land entrusted to the care and protection of the Caddo, Wichita, Osage, and Muscogee Creek tribal peoples and shared by 39 Indigenous nations, including the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Choctaw, and Seminole peoples.

Be it RESOLVED that the University of Central Oklahoma Faculty Senate recognizes that settler policies designed to confine and erase indigenous people resulted in forceable relocation to this place and that the Land Runs reinforced this stance.

Be it RESOLVED that the University of Central Oklahoma Faculty Senate is proud to be a part of the global community and recognizes that humanity must learn from the past to act collectively toward our future.

Be it RESOLVED that the University of Central Oklahoma Faculty Senate recognizes diversity as a strength and strive for respectful partnerships with all the peoples of Oklahoma in collective healing and true reconciliation, as well as honoring this land together.

Be it RESOLVED that the University of Central Oklahoma Faculty Senate recognizes our commitment to providing transformational educational experiences to all campus members and guests.

Be it RESOLVED that the University of Central Oklahoma Faculty Senate pledges to strive toward and sustain a meaningful and respectful relationship with the sovereign nations of the 39 federally recognized tribes within the state of Oklahoma.

IT IS SO RESOLVED.

III. Justification:

Since the 2020 United States Supreme Court ruling in *McGirt*, five major tribes, the Cherokee Nation, the Choctaw Nation, the Chickasaw Nation, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma have renewed recognition of tribal reservation lands within our state. This comes more than 180 years after the United States government promised the tribes

that they would always have claim to the lands entrusted to them within the boundaries of what is now the state of Oklahoma. As our university sits on lands originally entrusted to multiple tribes and all 39 federally recognized tribes as a whole, paying our respects and recognizing these facts through a formal resolution is hereby warranted.

*This Resolution was submitted for consideration to the UCO Faculty Senate on 9 September 2021 by: **Senators Barger Johnson, Archuleta, Jobe, Burdina, and Provencio.***

*Recommended for Approval by the: **UCO FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE***

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY ON 12 OCTOBER 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Barger Johnson', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning.

JENNIFER BARGER JOHNSON, President