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7 **RESOLUTION ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

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9 **WHEREAS**, the Preamble to the United States Constitution states, we will seek to “establish
10 justice, insure domestic tranquility, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings
11 of liberty to ourselves and our posterity”;

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the Wyoming Constitution states that “In their inherent right to life, liberty and the
14 pursuit of happiness, all members of the human race are equal”;

15
16 **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Education released a report this year, “Advancing Diversity
17 and Inclusion in Higher Education,” which builds upon university administration’s efforts
18 to expand college opportunity for all and presents key data that show the continuing
19 educational inequities and opportunity gaps for students of color, low-income students,
20 and marginalized students, and highlights promising practices that many colleges are
21 taking to advance success for students of all diverse backgrounds;

22
23 **WHEREAS**, the Higher Learning Commission, the educational accrediting agency for the
24 University of Wyoming, under the Policy Title: “Criteria for Accreditation number-
25 CRRT.B.10.010” states that: “1.C. The institution understands the relationship between
26 its mission and the diversity of society.” It further states that: “The institution addresses
27 its role in a multicultural society”; and further states that: “The institution’s processes
28 and activities reflect attention to human diversity as appropriate within its mission and for
29 the constituencies it serves.” Further stating that: “2.D. The institution is committed to
30 freedom of expression and the pursuit of truth in teaching and learning;”

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32 **WHEREAS**, the University of Wyoming seeks the full participation of every member of our
33 community and the University of Wyoming mission states that this institution strives to
34 “...nurture an environment that values and manifests diversity, free expression, academic
35 freedom, personal integrity, and mutual respect”;

36
37 **WHEREAS**, the University of Wyoming understands human diversity to be a source of strength,
38 creativity, and social and personal resiliency that deepens and broadens our lives,
39 believes interaction with people from diverse backgrounds and perspectives augments the
40 curricular experience, and seeks to afford every student the opportunity to gain the
41 knowledge and skills fundamental to a sound twenty-first century education necessary to
42 be a productive and contributing citizen of this state, nation and international community;

43
44 **WHEREAS**, we are a university of higher learning where freedom of speech and respectful
45 discourse is valued;

46 **WHEREAS**, the University of Wyoming is committed to being an inclusive academic community
47 in which people of all national origins, races, genders, spiritual values, sexual identities,
48 and ages are welcomed, supported, and valued;

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50 **WHEREAS**, the Chief Diversity Officer leads efforts to continue to make UW a welcoming and
51 supportive place for all members of the diverse university community, recruit and retain
52 the best students, staff and faculty, be competitive and nurturing as an institution in an
53 increasingly global and diverse world, and graduate students who are prepared to lead, to
54 understand and appreciate cultural differences and to be successful and contributory in
55 our world; now, therefore be it

56
57 **RESOLVED**, that the Faculty Senate supports the inaugural position of Chief Diversity Officer at
58 the University of Wyoming as approved by the Board of Trustees.