



**P.O. Box 8  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514**

March 3, 2023

Dear UNC Board of Governors:

On the behalf of the [UNC Free Speech Alliance](#) and thousands of interested UNC-CH alums, we want to thank you for your unanimous approval on February 23 banning “compelled speech” of a political nature as a condition to admission, employment, or advancement within the school system. We applaud your efforts to promote free speech, civil discourse, viewpoint diversity, and open inquiry, which DEI statements make impossible. That evening, our board held a dinner in Chapel Hill where we announced to our members and guests that, with the DEI statement ban, UNC has completed a foundation for academic freedom equal to any university in America.

Many of the close to 350,000 living UNC-CH alumni and students have been concerned for many years about the rising tide of focused political agendas, cancel culture, lack of academic rigor, identity politics and inequality in the classroom, iconoclasm, and intolerance in higher education. Given the growing interest in existing and new universities across America that pursue open inquiry and seek truth, we believe banning compelled political speech and the School of Civic Life and Leadership, also recently approved unanimously by the UNC Board of Trustees, will accelerate UNC-CH forward and return UNC-CH squarely to its mission of “light and liberty” in search of truth.

Your trend-setting vision, in tandem with that of the UNC Board of Trustees, will set UNC-CH and all North Carolina universities that you oversee apart from its national competition in a most creative way. You have placed the State of North Carolina ahead-of-the-curve and are squarely meeting the educational needs of students in North Carolina and beyond. You have assured that the First Amendment lives at our alma mater, the nation’s first public university. UNC AFSA is part of a national alliance of alumni of some of America’s top universities across the country, and we can tell you all eyes are focused on what North Carolina does.

If the University enforces its resolutions and implements its stated plans well, it will emerge with very few peers as a national leader of undergraduate and graduate education in America.

We look forward to following these important developments and would like to offer help in any way we can. Congratulations, thank you again, and very well done.

Sincerely,

[The Board](#)  
UNC Alumni Free Speech Alliance (UNC AFSA)

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/university-north-carolina-moves-ban-diversity-equity-inclusion-statements-anti-woke-backlash>

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/unc-accreditor-chapel-hill-belle-wheelan-southern-association-of-colleges-and-schools-commission-on-colleges-ef4e02f6> (See the video, as well as the article.)