

## College of the Marshall Islands

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## The College of the Marshall Islands Faculty Senate

Date: September 19, 2025

RE: Senate Resolution on Academic Integrity and Leadership Accountability, Affirmation of Academic Integrity and the Faculty's Expectation of Accountability in Leadership Conduct

Whereas, the Faculty Senate acknowledges the recent incident involving Dean Edward, in which multiple faculty members reported having been pressured—directly and indirectly—to alter student grades to ensure graduation eligibility; and

Whereas, this behavior constitutes a serious breach of academic ethics and has set a deeply concerning precedent for future interactions between faculty and administration; and

Whereas, Dean Edward's recent expression of regret does not sufficiently acknowledge the impact of his actions on faculty autonomy, institutional trust, and the integrity of the academic process;

## Be it resolved that:

- 1. The Faculty Senate Officers express their dissatisfaction with the insufficiency of the current response to this incident, particularly the lack of a clear and public acknowledgment from Dean Edward that pressuring faculty to alter grades is unacceptable and unethical.
- 2. The Faculty Senate Officers reaffirm that any attempt—implicit or explicit—to interfere with faculty grading decisions will be treated as a serious violation of academic integrity and professional boundaries.
- 3. The Faculty Senate Officers will respond proactively and formally to any future attempts of this nature, including but not limited to motions of censure and institutional reporting. Faculty members are encouraged to report any pressure, however subtle, through appropriate channels without fear of retaliation.
- 4. The Faculty Senate Officers call upon the President of CMI and all members of the executive administration to support an academic culture in which faculty grading autonomy is unequivocally protected, and to ensure that all Deans, Chairs, and Supervisors are held to the same ethical standards as the faculty.
- 5. The Faculty Senate Officers view this resolution not as a punitive act, but as a necessary step in restoring trust, protecting academic independence, and ensuring that similar incidents do not occur in the future.

Signed,

**Dr. Viviana Uriona**Faculty Senate President
September 19, 2025

Faculty Senate Vice-President September 19, 2025