

## **COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RIGHTS ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016**

Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights (CAFR) serves as guardian of academic freedom and rights for all members of this academic community. The committee met formally 18 times during the academic year and additional times for subcommittee meetings.

**Informal Cases:** Members of CAFR met with four different parties on an informal basis to discuss possible violations of academic freedom and rights, one from a student and three from faculty members. No further action was pursued with the student-based case. Attempts were made to informally mediate faculty-based cases and two of them were resolved amicably.

**Formal Case:** One informal inquiry was subsequently presented to CAFR as a formal case. The committee conducted an investigation into the alleged violation of rights of a faculty member, and presented its findings and recommendations to the President. The President communicated his decision in writing in response to CAFR's recommendations.

**Other meetings:** The chair of CAFR met with the Board of Trustees during the fall semester (by phone) and spring semester (in person) at trustees meetings to offer a brief report on the activities of CAFR. The chair of CAFR also participated in the Committee of Committees meetings hosted by the FEC during both semesters.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mao Chen

Chair of CAFR, 2015-2016

### **AY2015-16 CAFR Membership**

Mao Chen (World Languages and Literatures)

Jennifer Delton (History)

Regina Janes (English, Fall replacement for Josh Ness)

Joshua Ness (Biology & Environmental Studies)

Flagg Taylor (Government)

Saleema Waraich (Art History)

Nicki Werner ('18) SGA appointed student representative

**AY2016-17 CAFR Membership**

Nurcan Atalan-Helicke, Environmental Studies

Josh Ness, Biology & Environmental Studies (Chair)

Sara Lagalwar, Neuroscience

Feryaz Ocakli Government

Saleema Waraich, Art History (on leave AY2016-2017)

\*Student Reps to be determined