**Resolution for an independent investigation into the MU police for their investigation of Sebastian Martinez Valdivia**

Whereas it has come to our attention in a Columbia Tribune article published on Saturday, July 18th ("Choi criticizes journalists for tweets about Jefferson statue issue") that President and MU Interim Chancellor Mun Choi singled out social media posts of two journalists employed by MU as examples of "the kind of dissent from university staff that he said undermines the mission of the university.";  and

Whereas broader concerns about the placement and removal of the Thomas Jefferson statue have been voiced by MU constituents but refuted by UM administration and Board of Curators; and

Whereas the article points out that these social media posts drew the attention to one of the journalists, Sebastian Martinez Valdivia, because they were posted 9 days prior to someone spray-painting "Say her name Sally Heming" in front of the Thomas Jefferson statue on the quad; and

Whereas the MU police were dispatched to the home of Martinez, a Latino male, to question him about his social media posts and the vandalism to the statue; and

Whereas we are deeply concerned with the use of the university law enforcement office as a way to intimidate members of our community, and particularly, calling police to investigate a man of color without legal grounds; and

Whereas we want it to be known faculty are concerned by the appearance of any use of institutional power and positioning to target and harass racially and ethnically marginalized faculty and staff who express dissent against UM administrative decisions;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Council by majority vote calls for an independent investigation into how the MU police came to investigate Martinez. This independent investigation should be overseen by Faculty Council.