Resolution on 'pioneers' moniker

Whereas University of Denver faculty are committed to DU's own principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion;

Whereas University of Denver faculty are committed to creating an equitable learning environment for all students, including marginalized and minoritized students;

Whereas marginalized and minoritized students are most adversely impacted by monikers like "pioneers" in general and in relation to gaining equitable access to education in our classrooms;

and

Whereas the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) has observed the following:

The pioneer moniker does harm to members of our community who are Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), especially the Native American communities on whose land the University of Denver stands, the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute.

Students, community organizations, faculty, departments, and units have penned multiple letters to demand the removal of the pioneer word as the moniker of the university.

The Faculty Senate resolves:

The University of Denver should retire the pioneer moniker and related uses of the pioneer word.