

Faculty Senate Resolution on “One University” Initiatives

The Faculty Senate Cabinet offers the following resolution:

Whereas the Faculty Senate appreciates and continues to support initiatives intended to improve the reputation and financial condition of the University;

Stipulating that the University has three distinct, yet interrelated, planning initiatives currently underway: enrollment targets, centers of excellence, and collegiate restructuring as well as the expectation of quarter to semester conversion;

Acknowledging that conversations regarding the potential merger/acquisition of the School of Social Work with the College of Allied Health Sciences have been ongoing for a year;

Noting that a potential merger/acquisition between the College of Engineering and some elements of the College of Applied Sciences have been announced recently;

Recognizing that semester conversion, the various planning initiatives, and merger conversations carry the potential for “one-university” outcomes as envisioned by the Collegiate Restructuring charge;

Realizing that clear articulation of a strategic vision which justifies outcomes is critical to the effective integration and ultimate implementation of any recommendations which flow from the various initiatives:

Noting the relationship and potential synergy between semester conversion activities and individual planning initiatives within the units;

And in keeping with the spirit of the integrated framework for decision making and the spirit of the principles of shared governance as well as the faculty’s contractual responsibility for curriculum and instruction;

Be it resolved that:

1. The Faculty Senate calls upon President Zimpher and Provost Perzigian to define and communicate the strategic vision of “one university”, as it relates to the initiatives and outcomes identified above. The Faculty Senate seeks the articulation of the underlying vision justifying such outcomes (e.g., In what manner is university control over room and course scheduling going to result in improved student learning, or greater research productivity by faculty, etc.). Further, the Faculty Senate asks that the definition and articulation of the vision be communicated to the Faculty Senate before the end of Fall Quarter, 2008.
2. The Faculty Senate asks for the benchmarks and/or metrics (a report card) that will provide the assessment for the “one university” initiative and also that will inform units of the goals toward which their efforts should be directed.
3. The Faculty Senate asks that the timelines for implementation of any recommendations emerging from the planning initiatives be integrated with the semester conversion timeline.
4. The Faculty Senate recommends that the Academic Coordinating Committee be explicitly asked to monitor the recommendations of the various task forces to assure integration and consistency with the vision articulated in section 1 of this resolution.
5. The Faculty Senate asks that faculty be involved in sufficient numbers and areas to demonstrate meaningful involvement and consultation.