

Semester Conversion Resolution

Whereas the Task Force on Semester Conversion has identified a minimum conversion cost of \$13-15 million, and similar conversions at other institutions have been significantly more expensive;

Noting that the University of Cincinnati operates under the sound budgetary planning principle that no new major project should move forward without securing identified resources first;

Recognizing that there exist many quality initiatives at the University of Cincinnati that require funding and, therefore, compete for scarce resources;

Stipulating that strategic academic planning requires effective prioritization of Unit, College, and University programming and such prioritization must be guided through analysis of budget availability and potential goal-to-resource tradeoffs,

Be it resolved that,

- (a) The Vice President of Finance and Administration, in consultation with the Office of the Provost, should be charged with developing a specific draft budget plan for Semester Conversion with clear identification of the budget shifts necessary to cover the conversion before any final decision on whether to proceed with conversion is made. This could include the possibility of a multi-year accumulation of funds to build the budget necessary for conversion and a decision to be rendered when such funds have been accumulated;
- (b) Upon completion of the budget plan, the Office of the Provost should provide the Faculty with a strategic academic plan update that would include the possible budgetary prioritization of conversion over other university goals;
- (c) Upon receipt of this update, the Faculty Senate should convene a special All-University Faculty meeting to consider the budgetary prioritization of conversion over other objectives of the strategic academic plan and provide the results of that meeting to the offices of the Provost and President;
- (d) Final University transmittal to the University of Cincinnati's Board of Trustees of a recommendation to approve conversion to semester, if such a recommendation were to occur through this process, should include a clear articulation of the aforementioned budget and strategic academic plan prioritization analysis from all relevant university decision-making, advisory and shared governance committees.