

Professional Relations Committee of the Faculty Senate

Resolution on Appropriate Creation of Academic Units

For Second Reading: June 7, 2010

Whereas, the Faculty Senate does not oppose alternative or interdisciplinary academic structures, but believes the process through which the Voinovich School was established as a college-like planning unit lacked feedback and policy review by faculty, especially in relation to matters regarding faculty rights and responsibilities as specifically defined in the Faculty Handbook;

Whereas, faculty should be aware of the plans to create such academic units;

Whereas, faculty should have knowledge of the Centers and Institutes that will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for approval;

Whereas, it is especially critical for faculty to know about and help construct any academic unit that has the potential for an independent curriculum, or for granting degrees and certificates, or for retaining faculty;

Whereas, Faculty Senate and the University Curriculum Council are responsible for curricular decisions, program review, and procedures that govern faculty roles, responsibilities, and rights (see, for instance, *Faculty Handbook*, Section VI. Article 3.1 and VII. B);

Be it resolved that

If alternative academic structures are created, or created through restructuring, the administration follows a process that includes Faculty Senate review. The form of such initiations will be officially sanctioned by the faculty. Academic units that offer degreed programs or specialized curricula and are not housed in an existing college will be reviewed by UCC. Policies and procedures that are guided by the Faculty Handbook, such as promotion and tenure, ethics committees, and senate representation will be resolved and approved by the faculty senate prior to the operation of such units. Faculty in any new unit must be ensured the rights and responsibilities of the Faculty Handbook at the initiation of the unit.

Be it further resolved that

Upon approval of Centers and Institutes by the appropriate college dean(s) and the Vice-President for Research and Creative Activity, and prior to submission to the Board of Trustees, a list of approved Centers and Institutes and their locations within the University be communicated to the Chair of Faculty Senate. Procedure 01.015 of the Policy and Procedures should be changed to reflect this addition to the process.

Finally, let it be resolved that

| In instances where a Center or Institute is not to be housed in a college or colleges, the Center or Institute will be approved by the Council on Research and Scholarship and Creative Activity (CRSCA) and the Vice-President for Research and Graduate Studies. Procedure 01.015 of the Policy and Procedures should be changed to reflect this addition to the process.