

**Sense-of-the-Senate Resolution on  
Increasing Transparency and Prioritizing Shared Governance for All Budget-Related Issues  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee and Finance and Facilities Committee  
First Reading  
March 2, 2020**

**Whereas** Ohio University is experiencing financial stress and will continue to experience this stress for the foreseeable future;

**Whereas** faculty engagement in budget decisions, the development of financial policies, and decisions about funding priorities that affect the academic mission of the University has not been consistently maintained;

**Whereas the university**, colleges and schools have not consistently utilized mechanisms of shared governance when making budget decisions and setting financial priorities for academic programs;

**Whereas** all budget decisions affecting academic units will have both short- and long-term impacts on the education mission of the University;

**Be it resolved** that the EVPP and VPFA establish a university committee that includes at least one faculty member from each OU College and that the committee be charged with increasing transparency about all problems and solutions affecting University finances;

**Be it further resolved** that the EVPP and VPFA, all academic deans and school directors provide a quarterly forum to explain to faculty all budget issues related to the university, colleges and schools;

**Be it further resolved** that all academic deans and school directors include a minimum of 2 faculty, selected by their peers, to represent faculty interests in all College and School budget decisions having an impact on the academic mission;

**Be it further resolved** that the University's educational mission be prioritized so that budget cuts have minimal impact on teaching and the delivery of curricula across the university;

**Be it further resolved**, that if this resolution is supported by the Faculty Senate, the Provost will sign this Sense of the Senate resolution as outlined in VI.B.4.F of the *Faculty Handbook* ("The Provost may sign the resolution as reflection of support for the Senate's position").