

**Resolution on Appropriate Creation of Academic Units**  
**Professional Relations Committee**  
**May 17, 2010**  
**First Reading**

**Whereas**, the Faculty Senate does not oppose alternative or interdisciplinary academic structures, but does believe the Voinovich School was established as a college-like planning unit without appropriate feedback and policy review by faculty;

**Whereas**, the administration sought and received the Board of Trustees approval (April 2010) to establish the Robert D. Walter Center for Strategic Leadership and the Violet L. Patton Center for Arts Education;

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

**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 granting degrees and certificates, or for retaining faculty;

**Whereas**, Faculty Senate and the University Curriculum Council are central in curricular decision making, 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**

In the event that other such initiatives are created, the process followed by the administration in the creation of the Voinovich School not be repeated. The form of such initiations should be officially sanctioned by the faculty. Creation of centers, institutes, and college-like units not housed in an existing college should be reviewed by UCC and policies and procedures such as promotion and tenure, ethics committees, and senate representation should be codified and approved by the faculty senate prior to the creation and operation of such units.