

Revised Resolutions for  
Extraordinary Meeting of Faculty Senate (11/5/07)

**Resolution One: Comprehensive Plan**

**Whereas** the draft of the university's Five Year Academic Action Plan identifies \$37.2 million dollars in new investments over five years (\$12.3 million in base investments); and

**Whereas** no plan exists that identifies from where the money for these investments will come; and

**Whereas** it is inconceivable that this plan can be funded without significant reallocations, which means that the university will have to end or curtail current activities; and

**Whereas** previous annual reallocations have been steady, significant, and minimally strategic; and

**Whereas** it is impossible to assess priorities for new initiatives in a void, that is, without a commensurate list of activities that will be eliminated or reduced;

**Be it resolved** that the university create a balanced strategic plan that will propose explicit areas of reduction and elimination, alongside proposed areas of investment. Such a plan will allow faculty, staff, and students to weigh the value of new initiatives against that of plans that reduce or eliminate current activities; and

**Be it further resolved** that this comprehensive Academic Plan, one that respects the University's academic mission and includes both strategic investments as well as targeted reductions and reallocations, be fully discussed and reviewed by all of the senates, as well as the University Curriculum Council, Graduate Council, and other relevant university standing committees, within a time frame that allows for adequate deliberation.

**Resolution Two: Reaffirm our mission particularly to the region**

**Whereas** the Vision Ohio Five Year Academic Action Plan does not appear to address the mission of Ohio University to the region:

**It is the sense of the Faculty Senate** that we must strive to continually improve access and excellence in higher education in our region,

**Further**, we must strive to employ technology and other instructional strategies to enhance program offerings by regional campuses in a manner that embraces high academic standards, and enable students to complete their degrees at Ohio University.

### **Resolution Three: Academics and Academic Support**

**Whereas** the university now budgets less than half of the Athens General Fund to Academic Areas\*; and

**Whereas** a significant portion of the new investments outlined in the draft of the Five Year Academic Plan will be in Academic Support areas (Information Technology, University Advancement, Student Affairs, and Intercollegiate Athletics); and

**Whereas** most of the funding for the Five Year Academic Plan will likely be generated through a reallocation process;

**Be it resolved** that the total cost of new investments in the Academic Support areas should not exceed the total monies reallocated from Academic Support areas;

**Be it further resolved** that the University identify goals that would result in a positive increase in resources, measured as a percentage of the Athens General Fund, for Academic units. The academic leadership should identify metrics to ensure this occurs.

\*Note: Academic Areas will be defined as the Academic Colleges and the Library.

### **Resolution Four: Interdisciplinary programs and activities**

**Whereas** interdisciplinary initiatives and programs are essential for the future of Ohio University;

**It is the sense of the Faculty Senate** that investments should not be limited to new initiatives and new appointments but should also foster interdisciplinary programs by making sure that existing interdisciplinary programs have adequate resources and by reforming institutional mechanisms to support interdisciplinary research and teaching.

Further, the Faculty Senate insists that interdisciplinary study is central to Vision Ohio, and that the budget reallocated to it equal or exceed the percentage of any reallocation to intercollegiate athletics.

### **Resolution Five: Hire More Faculty**

**Whereas** Faculty Senate passed a resolution in May 2006 that called for the following:

" **Let it be resolved** that VISION OHIO be revised to formally incorporate the following written goals:

- Establish a comprehensive Group I faculty hiring program to bring Group I instruction on the Athens campus to the AAUP guideline and Ohio University policy of 85%.
  - Increase Group I faculty by 20-30 per year to accomplish this goal in 10 years.
  - Track percent Group I faculty instruction (Athens Campus Group I WSCH / All Athens Campus WSCH) as a metric of the success of the "Quality, Diversity, and Prominence for Faculty, Staff, and Students" goals of VISION OHIO.

These goals should be added to Vision Ohio as the first or second item under "Quality, Diversity, and Prominence for Faculty, Staff, and Students" in each section of VISION OHIO"; and

**Whereas** Provost Krendl reported to Senate in Fall 2006 that this was an important goal, but she wanted to determine first how much an increase in faculty compensation--a higher priority--was going to cost;

**Whereas** a Faculty Compensation Task Force was formed in academic year 2006-2007 and issued a report calling for an additional \$1.2 million investment in faculty compensation for each of the next five budget years; and

**Whereas** this amount is part of the FY08 budget and is included in the five-year financial planning being undertaken by Budget Planning Council; and

**Whereas** one could justifiably conclude that the university has now determined the cost of improving faculty compensation; and

**Whereas** most of the academic objectives articulated in the Draft Five Year Academic Action Plan can most effectively be accomplished through the commitment of more faculty time; and

**Whereas** there is at present no explicit goal to hire significant numbers of additional faculty in the draft of the Plan

**Be it resolved** that the Draft Five Year Academic Plan include recommendations for the hiring of new faculty in line with the resolution passed by Senate in May 2006.

### **Resolution Six: A quality learning environment for all**

**Whereas** both intramural and intercollegiate athletics are important aspects of the collegiate experience, and

**Whereas** enhancing service and accessibility to quality learning environment should be our highest priority for all students, not just intercollegiate athletes, and

**Whereas** university resources and facilities should benefit all students and not just a few of them, and

**Whereas** goals or strategies consisting of hiring coaches or winning sporting trophies are not compatible with an academic strategic plan, and

**Whereas** the success rate of Ohio University student athletes ranks favorably compared with that of its peers in the Mid Atlantic Conference and compares favorably with that of the Ohio University student body,

**It is the sense of the Faculty Senate** that increased resources must be budgeted for Intramural Athletics and fewer resources budgeted for Intercollegiate Athletics

**Further, it is the sense of the Faculty Senate** that there should not be funds in the Five Year Academic Plan earmarked exclusively for improving the academic success of Intercollegiate Athletes; any such funds and the services they support must be made available to all students.

### **Resolution Seven: Marketing and Communications**

**Whereas** it is welcome that Marketing and Communications has begun to actively assist with the recruitment of students as evidenced by the Promise campaign

**It is the sense of the Faculty Senate** that investments in Marketing and Communications be benchmarked in order to measure improvements in the quality of recruited students and the educational experience of students at Ohio University.

### **Resolution Eight: University Advancement**

**Whereas** it is an excellent objective to improve University Advancement efforts at Ohio University;

**It is the sense of the Faculty Senate** that these efforts should have clear benchmarks and accountability, and should not be funded by the General Fund.

### **Resolution Nine: Student Information System**

**Whereas** a fully-supported, integrated Student Information System (SIS) is critical to the academic enterprise;

**It is the sense of the Faculty Senate** that the new SIS system should not be in competition for funds identified in the 5-year Academic Plan.

### **Resolution Ten: Faculty Time is a Resource**

**Whereas** many of the initiatives in the Draft Five-Year Academic Plan will require greater commitments of time on the part of faculty; and

**Whereas** faculty time is a resource that costs the university money, but such time has not been budgeted in the plan; and

**Whereas** this greater investment in time will have to be accomplished either through hiring more faculty or reducing activities (teaching, research, and service) on which faculty currently spend their time; and

**Whereas** such increases in faculty workload most often come at the expense of research;

**Be it resolved** that the plan be revised to reflect and explicitly recognize the true costs of faculty time. Any objective in the Five-Year Plan that implies an increased expectation, or reallocation, of faculty effort must be matched with specifically identified budgeted resources.

**Resolution Eleven:  
SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION  
REGARDING INCLUSION OF RESOURCES IDENTIFIED IN STRATEGIC  
PLANS OF ACADEMIC UNITS IN THE FIVE-YEAR ACADEMIC ACTION  
PLAN**

**Second Reading--For Vote  
November 5, 2007**

**Whereas** the University's Five-Year Academic Action Plan purports to be an academic plan, and

**Whereas** the academic units are central to achieving the goals of any academic plan, and

**Whereas** Colleges, through their Schools and Departments, developed strategic plans detailing their goals and objectives within the framework of Vision Ohio, and

**Whereas** the current draft of the University's Five-Year Academic Action Plan does not mention specifically the Colleges' plans, nor include resources directed specifically toward their achievement;

**Be it resolved** that the University's Five-Year Academic Action Plan, when presented to the Board of Trustees, include the resources required to accomplish the goals identified in the strategic plans of the Colleges, and the Schools and Departments of which they are comprised.