

1. RESOLUTION TO INVESTIGATE VIOLATIONS OF GOVERNANCE PROCEDURES IN THE MATTER OF THE 2010 PROGRAM DEACTIVATIONS

Whereas the 10/1/10 decision to deactivate programs in Classics, French, Italian, Russian, and Theatre failed to meet the standard of formal consultation required by Faculty By-Law 2.2.2 [“The Faculty shall be informed and given opportunity to discuss at the earliest possible stages in their formulation, and shall review and provide formal consultation on, prior to adoption, all proposals regarding: (a) Creation, renaming, major re-organization, or dissolution of academic units and programs”],

Whereas no formal response was provided by the administration to the Senate following passage of Resolution 1011-01, which opposed the deactivations and called upon the President to pursue a consultation process that complies with the spirit and the letter of the Faculty By-Laws, and Resolution 1011-02, which determined that those deactivations compromised the core mission of the university and the ability of SUNY to fulfill its global mission as articulated by “The Power of SUNY” strategic plan,

Be it resolved that the Senate charge GOV:
to make a full and detailed investigation of the administration's actions,
to identify specific actions that were in violation of procedures outlined in the Faculty By-Laws,
to create a set of guidelines that more clearly determine how the Council on Governance will respond to similar administrative actions in the future,
to provide a report to the full Senate by 3/15/12;

Be it further resolved that, following that report, the Senate chair call on the President to reverse any administrative decisions that are determined to have been in violation of 2.2.2 of the Faculty By-Laws.

2. RESOLUTION TO INSTITUTE SPECIFIC CONSULTATION PROCEDURES BEFORE ENACTION OF DEACTIVATIONS

Whereas Faculty By-Law 2.2.2 states that “the Faculty shall be informed and given opportunity to discuss at the earliest possible stages in their formulation, and shall review and provide formal consultation on, prior to adoption, all proposals regarding: (a) Creation, renaming, major re-organization, or dissolution of academic units and programs,”

Whereas Senate resolution 1011-03, based on SUNY Senate Resolution 156-01-1, urged “the System Administration to ensure that campus administrations and existing governance bodies employ formal procedures for consultation before reaching any decisions regarding program consolidation, suspension or elimination,”

Whereas the SUNY Deactivation/Discontinuance form specifies that “the signature of the President affirms that the proposal has met campus administrative and governance procedures for consultation,”

Be it resolved that UAlbany institute a procedure whereby the President and Provost are required to consult with department members and chair, the college dean, the Senate and in particular

UAC, GAC, and UPPC, as well as other affected departmental or program faculty, staff and governance units before making a decision to deactivate or discontinue any program.

3. RESOLUTION TO DETERMINE OFFERINGS IN EUROPEAN LANGUAGES AND CLASSICAL STUDIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH UALBANY'S MISSION AND STRATEGIC PLAN

Whereas none of UAlbany's peer institutions offers fewer than 3 baccalaureate programs in European languages,

Whereas the deactivations of 10/1/10 reduce such offerings at UAlbany to 1 (Spanish),

Whereas the Undergraduate Education Objective #4 of the Strategic Plan calls for various initiatives designed to enhance the international components of undergraduate education,

Whereas the Student Experience Objective #4 of the Strategic Plan, which calls for amplifying the 'World Within Reach' perspective through a dynamic, rich assemblage of experiences, includes as Action Step 4.5 "to encourage undergraduate student contact with foreign languages and world cultures,"

Whereas the Strategic Plan charges the Vice Provost for International Education with organizing a group to identify critical languages and ways to build the University's capacity to deliver instruction in them, such group to be convened immediately following approval of the Strategic Plan, such group not having yet been convened,

Whereas Faculty By-Law 2.2.1 charges the Faculty with initiating, disapproving or approving and recommending for implementation "all changes in, additions to, or deletions from the Curriculum,"

Be it resolved that the Executive Committee of the Senate immediately establish a subcommittee composed of representatives from UAC, GAC and UPPC, as well as other faculty with relevant expertise, to determine which programs in European Language and Classical Studies should be activated, reactivated, or remain active in accordance with the liberal arts mission of the university, such subcommittee to report back to the Senate by 4/15/12.