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

Whereas Section 2.2.2 of the Faculty Bylaws of the University at Albany stipulates 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 the creation, renaming, major re-organization, or dissolution of academic units and programs”;

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.