



cc: Deans
L. Lapinski
R. McFauland.

State University of New York
State University Plaza
Albany, New York 12246

Vice Chancellor for Academic
Programs, Policy and Planning

April 1, 1980

TO: Academic Deans and Vice Presidents,
State University of New York
FROM: James E. Perdue *J. Perdue*
SUBJECT: Academic Program Developments: March, 1980

<u>Programs Re-registered</u> (by the State Education Department)		
Erie/North	Nursing	A.A.S.
<u>Revised in Competency-Based Mode and Registered</u>		
Buffalo Center	Teacher of Occupational Subjects	Ed.M.
<u>Programs Registered</u> (by the State Education Department)		
Empire State	Interdisciplinary Studies	B.P.S.
	Labor Studies (NYC Center only)	B.P.S.
	Business, Management & Economics (title changed from Business & Economics)	A.A., A.S., B.A., B.S., B.P.S.
	Cultural Studies (title changed from Humanities-Cultural Studies)	A.A., A.S., B.A., B.S.
Geneseo	Teacher of Blind & Visually Handicapped	M.S. in Ed.
New Paltz	Computer Science	B.A., B.S.
Utica/Rome	Industrial Technology	B.Tech
	Computer & Information Science	B.S.
Broome	Computer Science	A.S.
	Data Processing	A.A.S.
	DATA PROCESSING Technical	A.A.S.
	Chemical Engineering Technology	A.A.S.
	Civil Engineering Technology	A.A.S.
	Electrical Engineering Technology	A.A.S.
	Mechanical Engineering Technology ('Engineering' added to titles)	A.A.S.

Programs Registered Cont'd.

Finger Lakes	Nursing (change in content)	A.A.S.
Mohawk Valley	APPRENTICE TRAINING Building Trades (title changed from Building Trades)	A.A.S., A.O.S.

Programs Approved for Elimination

Binghamton	Classical Civilization	B.A.
Stony Brook	Health Science Technology-Pathology Technology	B.S.
	Religious Studies	B.S.
	Applied Analysis Engineering	B.E.
	Materials Science Engineering	B.E.
	Biochemistry	B.A.
	Environmental Studies	B.A., B.S.
Geneseo	Speech Education	B.A.
New Paltz	Russian Studies	B.A.
	Asian Studies	B.A., B.S.
	Biological Science	B.A., B.S.
	Botany	B.A., B.S.
	Zoology	B.A., B.S.
Oneonta	Music	B.S.
	Speech Education	B.A.
Oswego	Social Science	B.A.
Alfred ATC	Automotive Service Specialist	A.O.S.
Delhi	Welding - 17 credit hour	Certificate
Morrisville	Practical Nursing	Certificate
Genesee	CRIMINAL JUSTICE Corrections and Police	A.A.S.
Ulster	CRIMINAL JUSTICE Corrections and Police	A.A.S.
	APPRENTICE TRAINING Electrical	A.A.S.
	Land Surveying	Certificate

Programs Approved (by the State University) - Pending Registration

Stony Brook	Theatre Arts (title changed from Theatre)	B.A.
	Marine Environmental Sciences (title changed from Marine Environmental Studies)	M.S.
	Hispanic Languages & Literature (title changed from Hispanic Language & Literature)	M.A., Ph.D.
	Germanic Languages & Literature (title changed from Germanic Language & Literature)	B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

Programs Approved Cont'd.

Brockport	Music (content revised)	B.A., B.S.
Oswego	Mathematics (in addition to B.A.)	B.S.
Delhi	Park & Recreation Management (title changed from Recreation & Park Management)	A.A.S.
Cayuga	Paralegal Assistant	Cert., A.A.S.
Mohawk Valley	Communication Skills	Cert.
Rockland	Medical Office Assistant	Cert.
	Medical Record Technology	A.A.S.
Westchester	BUSINESS Retail Business Management	A.A.S.

Letters of Intent/Program Proposals Received

Albany	counseling psychology	Ph.D.
Oswego	zoology	B.S.
Broome	drafting technology	A.A.S.
Genesee	advertising display & exhibit design	A.A.S.
	science laboratory technology	A.A.S.
Jamestown	artisan woodworking	A.A.S.
Monroe	business fashion buying & merchandising/A.A.S.	
	criminal justice	A.S.
Nassau	food service administration restaurant management	A.A.S.
North Country	gerontology	certificate
Orange	electrical technology electronics computer systems	A.A.S.
Tompkins-Cortland	radio & TV broadcasting	cert., A.A.S.
	secretarial studies word processing	A.A.S.
Ulster	individual studies	A.S.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
State University of New York
at Albany

M E M O R A N D U M

September 19, 1975

TO: President Emmett B. Fields
FROM: L. Gray Cowan, Dean
SUBJECT: Enclosed Memorandum

The enclosed memorandum on resource allocation for GSPA would, undoubtedly, find its way to your desk in the normal course of business. However, I thought it might be of help to you if you had a chance to glance at it before your meeting with our faculty on Thursday, October 2, since, in all probability, questions of resource allocation will be raised in that meeting.

The distribution of this memorandum has been confined to the Vice-President and yourself.

LGC/mpw

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
State University of New York
at Albany

M E M O R A N D U M

May 27, 1975

TO: Louis T. Benzset, President

FROM: L. Gray Cowan, Dean

SUBJECT: Response of the Graduate School of Public Affairs to
the Report of the Select Committee on Academic
Priorities

The Committee's relatively brief comments on the Graduate School of Public Affairs are on the whole reasonably accurate, although in some major areas, it seems to me, the Committee's perceptions are not in accord with present facts and trends.

There is no need for me to repeat here specific comments made by the Departmental Chairmen and by myself as Director of the Program of Public Affairs, and this response assumes that it will be read in conjunction with ~~the~~ the Departmental and Program responses. I will, however, make some observations with regard to the School's position as a whole, and additional comments regarding the Departments.

The School's growth in student body over the past three years has been gratifying, but it has concomitantly put severe strains on the Department of Public Administration, where the large bulk of this growth has taken place. The School has been able to cope with these strains thus far, but there is little question that if growth in Public Administration is to continue, additional resources will be necessary.

The Committee did not attack the general problem of the role and place of the professional schools in this University--in my view, a serious omission in the Committee's work. It seems to me that some discussion of this question is badly needed, but it may well be that the question is of such complexity, that the Committee could not see its way clear to raising it in the limited time available.

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Response of the Graduate School of Public Affairs to the Report
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The Committee's comments on the mission of the School are of importance. The School's relationship with the Legislature and State agencies is of continuing concern to the School and a good deal of the time of this Office has been devoted over the past four years to mending political fences. I would agree that the School has not as fully exploited its geographic location in relationship to the State as it perhaps should have, but as the Chairmen's reports indicate, steps are being taken in this direction. The School is slowly overcoming barriers which have been erected as a result of past history and we have every expectation that our importance as a resource to the State will be recognized in greater and greater degree by both executive and legislative agencies.

From this point of view, the relocation of the School on the main campus has, as Professor Axelrod points out, undoubtedly created certain difficulties. It still remains to be seen, however, whether the relocation in terms of the School's educational mission is of greater advantage.

The School is one of some 17 Comprehensive Schools among the 130 members of the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration. It ranks, therefore, among the top schools in the country, but it has badly needed visibility equal to its performance. This visibility is gradually being created as a result of the scholarly and professional activity of the faculty, but, in my view, the School deserves much more visibility than it has achieved even up to the present time. One of the major goals of this Office will be to continue our efforts to promote the national visibility and recognition of the School, and thereby of the Institution as a whole.

Specific Comments on the Committee's Recommendations on Departments

Political Science Department: The question of the location of the Department of Political Science is raised but not answered by the Committee. In my own view, at the present time, there is little to be gained and much to be lost by a relocation of the Political Science Department in the College of Arts and Sciences. Particularly in the American government side of the Department, there is growing cooperation with the Department of Public Administration, and with the new emphasis of

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the Political Science Department on state and local government, that cooperation will inevitably become even closer. New appointments being made in the Department further reinforce this trend. I would seriously doubt that, given a free choice, the Department of Political Science would voluntarily relocate. The complementarity between the two Departments in terms of subject matter dealt with is such that, particularly at the graduate level, strength would be lost on both sides by separating the Departments. The further question raised as to the elimination of departments, with a consequent unification of the faculty of the Graduate School of Public Affairs, is one which I have raised before and will raise again in the context of a more fully unified program for the School as a whole. The question raises a whole series of highly complex issues, however, which cannot be resolved except through lengthy and detailed negotiation. The basic question of whether such a unification would materially aid the overall mission of the School has yet to be resolved by the faculty.

I would take issue with one or two comments made by the Committee regarding the Department of Political Science. The statement, "the point is that the thrust of the Department as a total Department, is not strong, and is not making an impact in the field of political science" seems to me somewhat meaningless. I doubt that a department can have a "thrust"; it is individuals who as a result of their research create "thrust". The Committee's further statement that, "scholarship should be focused more clearly on selected areas rather than is presently the case," is equally meaningless. No one "focuses" scholarship; it is a result of the interests and skills of individual scholars and I would not support any effort to "focus" scholarship, but if the interests of a group of faculty members should coincide, I would encourage collective approach to a scholarly problem. As the Chairman points out, the Department is making an active effort to direct its work toward the field of state and local government and the results of this effort should be seen in a few years. I would agree with the Chairman, that it is difficult to see how the Committee's recommendations toward greater scholarly effort on the part of the Department can be reconciled with its recommendation for diminution of resources; the two seem, at least on the surface, contradictory. It would seem to go without saying, that appointments of new faculty members will be among those who are committed to scholarly research.

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Public Administration Department: The Committee's complimentary comments on the Department of Public Administration are gratefully received. There is no question that this Department gives promise of gaining national recognition and the role it is now playing in the National Association is evidence of this.

I would, however, disagree with the Committee's statement that "faculty publication is generally good and reflects the applied nature of public administration." Scholarly production in this Department is lower than that in Political Science and not as many of the faculty are engaged in publication as in the other Department. It may be argued that, given the present faculty-student ratio in Public Administration, insufficient time is left for extensive publication efforts, but even the present figures do not justify the total absence of publication over a period of years by several senior members of the Department. The question of reallocation of resources within the School, as represented by the Committee, has a very limited application. While it is true that the faculty members in the Department of Political Science do not carry as heavy a graduate load, the undergraduate registration in political science courses appears to be rising somewhat each year and it is difficult to see how the Department could satisfactorily carry out its teaching mission at the undergraduate level with fewer faculty members than it has at present. Most of the senior level courses in the Department are closed out at pre-registration; fewer members in the Department would merely serve to increase the size of undergraduate classes, which are already larger than the undergraduates like to have them. The question of resource allocation within the School becomes one of balance between the two parts of the School's educational mission--serving the undergraduates and the preparation of professionals at the graduate level. In my view, it is important that these two factors be constantly kept in mind in any reallocation of resources, and decisions on this question will have to be made on individual basis as lines become available. I would not be prepared to commit myself to any long-range policy on the question at this time.

The work of the Department of Public Administration is of crucial importance to the future of the School and given the growth pressures at the present time, it would seem preferable to reallocate resources from outside the School rather than attempting to move lines within the School.

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Program in Public Affairs: I have already commented on this Program in the attached response. I would only re-emphasize that this Program fills a particular interdisciplinary need in the preparation of professionals for the public service at this time, at a very minimal cost to the University.

LGC/mpw

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
State University of New York
at Albany

M E M O R A N D U M

May 23, 1975

TO: Louis T. Benezet, President

FROM: L. Gray Cowan, Dean

SUBJECT: Response to Select Committee on Academic Priorities'
Comment on Program in Public Affairs

The Committee's brief comment on the Program in Public Affairs is essentially accurate in terms of its perception of the reason for the Program's existence, it is not entirely accurate as to detail.

There appears to be, quite clearly, a need for a masters degree program which stresses public policy formulation and analysis as opposed to the more strictly professionalized masters degree in Public Administration.

The MAPA Program has been in existence in its present form a relatively short time, but the few students who have graduated from the Program have had no trouble whatever in placement. It is true that admission standards are not identical with those of the MPA or MA in Political Science, but they are not necessarily lower. The type of student who applies for the MAPA usually has a somewhat different background than those applying to the other Departments and has fairly specific career goals in mind. Consequently, the grade point average may not in every case be as high as those for the professional degree, but in the particularly specialty toward which the student is aiming, they are frequently somewhat higher. In other words, we are catering in this Program to a specialty clientele who might not otherwise be recruited for either Political Science or Public Administration.

The Committee's comments on the organization of the Program are well taken; the Faculty Committee in charge of the Program has this year revised the structure and content

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Response to Select Committee on Academic Priorities' Comment
on Program in Public Affairs

of the Program and this is included in mimeograph form and sent to each applicant, as it does not appear in the present catalog of the School. Greater stress is now laid on analytical tools with particular emphasis on further training in economics and statistics.

The Program does not have resources of its own; it draws from courses given by faculty members of the School in the field of public policy as well as courses from other schools and departments. It does not, therefore, draw on resources which would otherwise be devoted to other parts of the curricula.

The Program clearly fills a need, as I have indicated, and we hope that with reorganization of the Program requirements, that this need will be more specifically filled.

LGC/mpw

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
State University of New York at Albany

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: May 27, 1975

TO: President Louis T. Benezet

FROM: Carlos A. Astiz, Chairman, Political Science Department

SUBJECT: Response to Report of President's Select Committee on
Academic Priorities

Specific Comments Dealing With the Department of Political Science and Its Program. Most of the specific comments of the Select Committee on Academic Priorities are based on the 1972 outside evaluation which, in my view, is obsolete. The Department has made four new appointments since 1972, and all of them have been in the areas of quantitative analysis, public policy, and state and local government. The junior faculty developed and proposed a major overhaul of our programs, in order to emphasize these areas and take advantage of location. Most of it has already been approved and is being implemented. The Department is doing quite well in the area of new graduate students; the Committee fails to note that the mean of the combined GRE scores is higher than that of the Department of Public Administration, in spite of the huge demand that exists for admission to the latter.

The statement that "the thrust of the Department, as a total Department, is not strong, and is not making an impact on the field of political science" is totally meaningless. What does "the thrust of the Department" mean? How do you "make an impact" in their respective fields?

The Department of Political Science has moved in the directions suggested by the 1972 evaluators: Faculty appointments and even partial field changes by existing faculty have been used to meet the advice of the evaluators. The remarks on faculty scholarship are confusing; the standard of measurement does not coincide with that applied to other departments and programs. I have been a severe critic of some of my colleagues, and have pressured them toward greater scholarly productivity. It is fair to point out, however, that within the Albany campus and the entire SUNY context, the Department as a whole is more than meeting its quota in this regard. The Committee is, in my view, condescending, when it

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writes that "several senior faculty members are publishing and several of the younger faculty may be on the way to national recognition." In fact, the Department has at least five senior faculty members who enjoy the national and/or international recognition identified as a decisive characteristic in discussing other departments. Another five faculty members below the rank of professor are rapidly moving in that direction. That is nearly one-half of the Political Science faculty; it is only fair to ask how many SUNYA departments can match this performance.

If, as the report itself indicates, "scholarly progress seems altogether likely" beyond what we have already achieved; if the quality of our students is improving, as the report indicates, and they are being placed; if we are moving in the direction suggested by the 1972 evaluators, what is the rationale for recommending a diminution of resources? It would appear to me that the Political Science Department would be an ideal case for increasing resources in order to make it possible to achieve the scholarly level of "the more prestigious universities offering the Ph.D. in this field." What the Department of Political Science needs, if it is to further strengthen its coverage of state and local government, is to be able to make a senior appointment in this area. Such an appointment, at the highest possible level, together with Professor Joseph Zimmerman and the existing junior faculty, would "establish" the Department even to the satisfaction of the Priorities Committee. In any case, I fail to see how the Committee's recommendations can possibly be carried out with diminished resources.

General Comments Dealing With the Entire Report. It must be clear to you and to every reader of this Report that the comments and recommendations dealing with each department and/or program cannot be read in isolation. It is the entire product that makes it possible to ascertain the objectivity of the document and the careful application of the general criteria (outlined on pp. 31-35). Even a superficial look at the section entitled "Specific Program Recommendations" indicates that the Report suffers from lack of balance and objectivity. The approach developed in the first four chapters has not been systematically applied in the final section; the quality rating scale of p. 32 (questionable perhaps, but a step in the direction of objectivity) appears to have been forgotten or ignored. Let me be more specific: The Committee was made up of ten faculty members from eight academic departments and two professional schools. I could not find any serious criticism of any of the departments and schools represented in the Committee, although one would think that a faculty member is most knowledgeable about his own department. On the contrary, superlatives as "one of the strongest," "one of the finest," "high quality," etc. appear rather often when commenting on these particular programs.

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What is perhaps more important, six of the eight academic departments represented in the Committee (75%) are recommended for additional resources, either in the form of new faculty positions, additional assistantships, or absorption of lines now allocated to autonomous programs. In no case is a program represented in the Committee severely criticized or recommended for suspension, elimination, or reduction of resources. This is particularly important since recent outside evaluations found serious weaknesses in two such programs.

Furthermore, in the case of certain departments (not all of them represented in the Committee) the praise seems unwarranted or exaggerated. Had the general standards actually applied to the Department of Political Science been applied to them, the conclusions would have been different. To cite one example, the Department of Public Administration, with which some of my colleagues are fairly familiar, does not appear to have any more scholarly productivity and national recognition than the Department of Political Science; I have been informed that the 1973 external evaluation noted major deficiencies in the D.P.A. program. The Priorities Committee Report gives the opposite idea. There are other errors and omissions which I would be happy to present to you personally, if you consider it convenient or useful. The concept of an objective evaluation of the units and programs of this University is a valid one. I supported the idea from the time it was announced and I still support it. Regardless of the time and effort invested by the Priorities Committee, the report made available falls far short of what is needed and, indeed, expected.

CAA/a

cc: Dean L. Gray Cowan

22 May 1975

TO: CARLOS A. ASTIZ AND L. GRAY COWAN
FROM: JOSEPH F. ZIMMERMAN *Joseph F. Zimmerman*
SUBJECT: SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Relative to the report of the Select Committee on Academic Program Priorities, I suggest that you stress in your response that many graduate courses in political science support the Master of Public Administration and the Doctor of Public Administration Programs. You might also mention that Professors Stout and Zimmerman offer public administration courses and that Professor Zimmerman is the former chairman of the Urban Development Concentration in the Master of Public Administration program.

I do not understand what the Committee means when it stated that "scholarship should be focused more clearly on selected areas than is presently the case." The statement in itself is meaningless.

The Committee's recommendation of "some diminution of resources" contradicts some of the other recommendations of the Committee.

With respect to the Graduate School of Public Affairs, the most disturbing statements appear in the section on the Department of Public Administration. I am amazed that the Committee could write that "external evaluators in 1973 were favorably impressed with the quality of the program and its faculty. Faculty publication is generally good and reflects the applied nature of public administration."

The external evaluators noted major deficiencies in the doctor of public administration program and it is apparent that these deficiencies have not been corrected. Furthermore, the Department of Public Administration lacks a single nationally recognized scholar and the publication record of the Department is scanty and of low quality with a very few exceptions.

It would be a most serious mistake to reallocate resources between the Department of Political Science and the Department of Public Administration on the basis of the Select Committee's report.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
State University of New York at Albany

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: May 20, 1975

TO: President Louis T. Benezet

FROM: Donald Axelrod *DA* Chairman, Public Administration Dept.

SUBJECT: Response to Report of President's Select Committee on Academic Priorities

In behalf of PAD, I would like to take advantage of your suggestion to respond to the Report of the Select Committee on Academic Priorities. The Committee has been most perceptive in noting the sharp increase in enrollments coupled with a marked improvement in student quality because of more rigorous admission standards. (Incidentally, the total enrollment in the graduate programs has tripled not doubled in the last five years). The student-faculty ratio of about 19-1 is intolerably high and, if continued, will compromise the quality of the program especially at the doctoral level. Unless the Department receives additional faculty lines through reallocation within GSPA, as the Committee suggests, or through other means, it is prepared to cut back enrollments from 233 to 175 FTE's for the Fall 1975 semester. This would mean increasing the rejection rate from 40 to about 50 percent.

The Department would like to call some additional issues to the attention of your Committee:

1. The number of women enrolled in the program (about 70) has more than quadrupled since 1969-70. While this is gratifying, it should nevertheless be doubled on a head-count basis in no more than 3 years to achieve parity with the number of men.
2. The number of black and Puerto Rican students in the program remains distressingly small. While the external funding GSPA has received for minority fellowships is helpful, it is not enough. PAD should acquire the necessary resources to mount an aggressive recruitment drive.
3. Regrettably, the Committee sidestepped the question as to the appropriate location of the Political Science Department and suggested further exploration by GSPA, the College of Arts and Sciences and SUNYA generally. This should begin without delay. Some faculty members

in Political Science are committed to the mission of GSPA and undoubtedly would prefer to stay in the School. Others might prefer to find their intellectual home in the College of Arts and Sciences.

4. The Committee did not touch on the relationship of the political economy program to the public administration program. Prior to the GSPA-SUNYA merger political economy was part of GSPA. In the post-merger period faculty members in the political economy program were given joint appointments in the Economics Department and in GSPA. For all practical purposes they are part of the Economics Department. Since the Public Administration Department relies heavily on the political economy program for course offerings in public finance, present organizational arrangements create unnecessary problems in planning, scheduling and coordinating courses between the two programs and result in some duplication of course content.

5. The Committee might address itself to the GSPA model that best meets priority needs of SUNYA. One model resembles the pre-merger pattern -- an interdisciplinary faculty with strengths in public administration, political economy and political science and without the inflexibility of departmental structures. The alternative is the present model which increasingly tends to be dysfunctional.

6. The Committee encourages the Department to take advantage of its location in Albany. Presumably it means that the Department should develop closer ties with the State government. The Department concurs with this view and is moving on many fronts to make PAD a credible and significant resource for State government. However, physical arrangements are the principal obstacle to a closer relationship. In the view of most members of the Department the move to the Mohawk Tower was ill-conceived and disastrous for the PAD program. It removed PAD from close proximity to State government. It scattered the Department over a number of small floors while making it dependent on other buildings in SUNYA for classroom and seminar space. As a result continuing communication and interaction among faculty and students, so indispensable to a professional and graduate school, have been effectively impeded. In the process PAD and GSPA lost the physical presence that is vital to the sense of identity of a professional school. (For example, note the separate public administration centers at Syracuse, N.Y.U., Princeton, U.S.C., etc.). A high priority item should be the return of GSPA to a refurbished Draper Hall.

President Louis T. Benezet

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7. PAD has been compelled to look for external funding for graduate assistantships because, in all candor, it does not get its fair share of assistantships from SUNYA, using as a criterion the ratio of assistantships to graduate FTE enrollments.

DA/a

cc: Dean L. Gray Cowan

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The M.P.A. and non-degree programs in Public Administration are in high demand; total enrollments have doubled in the past five years. While enrollment has increased, the faculty size has grown very little, so that the student/faculty ratio since 1970 has grown from 10.5 to 18.9. This is rather high, considering that the Department has no undergraduate program.

Student quality has improved as enrollment has increased; combined verbal and quantitative GRE scores of those who enroll average 1,310 for doctoral and 1,110 for master's students. While the Department has funds to support only twenty-three of its three hundred students, another thirty-five are supported by external funds. Students are prepared at the master's level for a wide variety of practitioner roles in all segments of government. At the doctoral level, students are prepared for teaching, research, and high level directing and coordinating roles in public administration. The Department awards about fifty M.P.A. and three D.P.A. degrees each year. Placement has been excellent.

External evaluators in 1973 were favorably impressed with the quality of the program and its faculty. Faculty publication is generally good and reflects the applied nature of public administration.

The Department appears to be moving in sensible directions, taking advantage of its location in Albany. It is obtaining outside grants; its reputation is growing. There are no other SUNY doctoral programs in this field.

Recommendations:

With development of its research and scholarship, this graduate program could gain national recognition. To this end the Committee recommends that faculty lines be reallocated within the School to this Department. This recommendation is justified on the basis of workload, quality, leadership and capacity for growth, as well as need. Faculty appointments and replacements should show a high capacity for and commitment to scholarly research.

The Department should continue its efforts to obtain external funding for projects that can be expected to enrich the work of faculty members, the educational experiences of students, and the contributions of the School to the improvement of public administration. In addition, existing relationships with other schools and departments of the University should be expanded, with the double aim of both economizing resources and enhancing the students' educational experience.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Background and Structure

The Graduate School of Public Affairs was established in 1962 as an independent unit by the State University of New York and it became part of SUNY-Albany in 1966. The School is structured as follows:

1. The Department of Political Science offers programs leading to the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D.
2. The Department of Public Administration offers programs leading to the degrees of Master of Public Administration and Doctor of Public Administration.
3. A program in Political Economy, staffed entirely by the Department of Economics, offers programs leading to the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy.
4. A program in Public Affairs leads to the Master of Arts degree.

The School is staffed by thirty-eight full-time and three part-time faculty; it has experienced steady enrollment growth, primarily owing to the graduate program in Public Administration (now three hundred students).

The School's student/faculty ratio of 17.7 is slightly above the campus average, and the instructional cost per credit (\$44) just under the campus average. The figure for average faculty contact hours per week, however, is only 8.8, so the faculty generally appears to have ample time for scholarship.

Attempts by the Department of Public Administration to secure external funding have been generally successful and should continue. The location of this School at the site of the largest state government in the nation provides a rich opportunity in this regard.

The Select Committee has examined the various programs offered by this important professional school, but did not have enough time to address the question of whether the Political Science Department might be located to better advantage within the College of Arts and Sciences rather than the Graduate School of Public Affairs. It leaves this important question to be explored by the School, College and University.



School of Criminal Justice

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12222
1400 Washington Avenue - 518 - 457-4831

Dean's Board

February 24, 1975

Dean L. Gray Cowan, Chairman
Council of Deans
State University of New York
MT 911
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222

Dear Dean Cowan:

As I indicated to you in our conversation the other day, the Select Committee on Academic Priorities is now in the process of completing by May 15, 1975, a report which President Benezet requested from us. In brief, he asked for a review and a statement of needs and priorities among the academic programs at SUNYA with special emphasis on graduate education.

The Committee members are now gathering and summarizing information on academic programs on this campus and will be meeting shortly to assess carefully the data collected. They are concerned that they do all they can within the time available to broaden their understanding and knowledge of each of the academic programs on this campus.

After these phases are completed, the Committee must turn to the task of deciding on the degree and character of priority which should be assigned to the various programs. Obviously, one of the most important problems which it must resolve is the criteria which are to be employed in this process. There is no way the Committee can finally escape the responsibility for exercising judgment in this matter. The members, however, would find it very helpful to have the views of individuals and bodies responsible for the governance of this campus.

To that end, I and several of my colleagues would appreciate the opportunity to meet with members of the Council of Deans to explore their views on priority criteria. We assume there is wide agreement that high quality is the standard against which we are measuring ourselves, but in a time of fixed or even ~~deciding~~ budget allocation, the hard question is what should be the basis for deciding among competing resource demands so that excellence can be achieved or maintained among some limited number of programs or so that there is a rational basis for deciding on the order in which they are placed for development.

declining

February 24, 1975

You might wish to express your views on the relative importance of such program dimensions as: student demand and subsequent career prospects; relevance to contemporary and developing social problems; or the enrichment of cultural understanding and the fostering of its development. You might also wish to consider the needs for doctoral programs in specific fields, as contrasted to masters or certificate programs, and similarly the priorities to be assigned interdisciplinary as contrasted to more traditional academic fields.

These are examples of the type of issues which might be a point of departure for our discussion, but I do not want to limit in any way your views on other criteria.

I will look forward to hearing from you and meeting with your Committee.

Sincerely yours,



Vincent O'Leary
Professor of Criminal Justice

jad

The attached memo was sent to these academic units:

Biology

Geology

Computer Sci

Afro Amer. St.

Geography

Psychology

Political Sci

Public Adm

Social Welf.

Classics

Philosophy

Rhetoric

Italian

Theater

Educ Administration

Ed Foundations

Ed Psychology

Counseling & Pers. Serv.

Curriculum & Instruction

Instruction

Business Educ.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY
1400 Washington Avenue Albany, New York 12222



Office of Research
and
Office of Graduate Studies

M E M O R A N D U M

TO:

FROM: J. Fredericks Volkwein, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies

DATE: January 30, 1975

JFV

President Benezet has recently appointed a Select Committee on Academic Priorities to assess the present and future status of graduate and undergraduate programs and to recommend priorities. As you know, a very short time period has been allotted to this important project, and the Office of Graduate Studies is assisting the Committee in carrying out its charge. The Committee has decided to focus its attention first on graduate programs and we need your assistance in providing up-to-date information.

We realize that the beginning of a new semester places many pressures, heavy work loads and a multitude of requests for information upon you all. However, we would like to ask for your cooperation in providing us with some important recent data. The Committee is rapidly getting organized and needs the following information no later than February 10:

- (1) A complete set of your most recent faculty vitae.
- (2) Your 1973-74 Annual Report.
- (3) A statement (or information) regarding the quality of your graduate students that is quickly and easily available.
- (4) A short summary (preferably not more than 1-2 pages) of the strengths and weaknesses of the graduate program and progress that the Department feels it has made since the last evaluation by external consultants.

We will appreciate your prompt response in assisting the Committee.

Please note the items on the next page.

Information available in the Office of Graduate Studies for _____

(a) Most Recent Self-Study _____

(b) Most Recent External Evaluation _____

By: _____

(c) Graduate Academic Council Report _____

(d) Doctoral Placement Information as of January, 1975.

(e) Attached is a sample summary of strengths and weaknesses, if available.

Attachments

JFV:jr