Policy on Reorganization of Academic Departments and Primary Programmatic Units

Meeting on 5/23/77

Routing #28 76-77

Resolution #25
1976-1977

Subject: Policy on Reorganization of Academic Departments and Primary Programmatic Units

(See attached)

To: The Faculty Senate

From: President Albert W. Brown

Re: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution

a. Accepted. Effective Date

b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on

c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II., III.

a. Received and acknowledged

b. Comment: Held for further study & statement of principles involved in the general complex procedures.

Distribution: Vice Presidents: May 4, 1978 - Reoock. Others as identified: Far see

Distribution Date: 

Signed: 
(Chairman of the College)

Date Received by the Senate: 5/14/77
STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
Brockport, New York  

Faculty Senate  
319 Administration  

Resolution #28, 1976-77  

Policy on Reorganization of  
Academic Departments and Primary Programmatic Units  

I. Rationale  

The rationale for reorganizing academic departments and primary units is found in the four goal statements developed for campus-wide academic reorganization in the Fall of 1975:

1. "The structure should facilitate the development and maintenance of both traditional and non-traditional educational programs and provide a variety of complementary experiences."  

2. "The structure should provide for the free flow of communication among all members of the college community."  

3. "The structure should provide for a reasonably allocation of resources consistent with principles of fiscal responsibility and sound academic practice."  

4. "The structure should provide for open, sensitive and fair treatment of all members of the college community."  

II. Criteria  

Any proposal for academic reorganization of departments or primary units shall meet the following three criteria:

1. The proposed reorganization plan shall produce distinct advantage for one or more existing academic program  

AND/OR  

shall create distinct opportunities for the development of new academic programs which meet the stated mission of the institution.  

2. The proposed reorganization plan shall not significantly disadvantage any existing academic program without justification in terms of the stated mission of the institution.  

3. The proposed reorganization plan shall not be justified solely in terms of financial exigency.
III. Procedures

The following procedures shall be used to evaluate any proposed plan to reorganize academic departments and primary units:

1. A proposal for academic reorganization may originate either from the Chief Administrative Officer of the College or from a committee of faculty from the unit or units involved. The proposal shall contain at least the following information:
   a. Specification of the reorganization plan.
   b. A statement of rationale in terms of the criteria contained in section II of these policies.
   c. A brief assessment of the expected impact upon academic programs.

The proposal shall be distributed to the heads of all departments or primary units involved, the President of the Faculty Senate and the Chief Administrative Officer of the College.

2. A joint committee of faculty from the departments and units involved shall be formed to assess the impact of the proposed plan on all academic programs. Each head of a department or unit affected by the proposal shall within two weeks submit to the President of the Faculty Senate the names of two faculty members to represent the department or unit on this committee. The President of the Faculty Senate shall appoint a Senate observer to the committee who shall convene the first meeting of the joint committee, and who shall have the responsibility for seeing that all programs are evaluated on a fair and impartial basis.

3. Within two months following the first meeting of the joint committee, a written statement of impact shall be prepared and distributed to all heads of departments and units affected by the proposal. It is the function of this committee to develop or assess alternative plans.

4. Within one month following receipt of the statement of impact, each department or unit shall prepare a response to the statement if it chooses to do so. All responses shall be returned to the joint committee.

5. Following receipt of all departmental or unit responses, or expiration of the one month deadline, the joint committee shall submit the original proposal, the statement of impact and the departmental and unit responses to the President of the Faculty Senate. The President of the Senate shall distribute these materials for review by the appropriate standing committee(s) on academic policies.
6. The Academic Policies Committee(s) shall study the materials submitted and determine whether or not the proposed plan serves the mission of the institution. In the event that both the Graduate and Undergraduate Academic Policies Committees are involved, the two committees shall attempt to reach a joint decision. Following this review, the committee(s) shall do one of the following:

ea. The committee(s) may prepare a recommendation for the Faculty Senate to endorse or reject the proposal, and bring the recommendation to the floor of the Faculty Senate for action.

b. If one or more meritorious alternative plans have been submitted by the departments or units involved, and if the alternative(s) appear to be superior to the original proposal, the committee(s) may elect to submit such alternative proposals to review by returning to step 2 of these procedures. In this case, the Academic Policies Committee(s) shall act as the originators of the new proposal under step 1.

7. When a proposal is moved to the floor of the Faculty Senate by the Academic Policies Committee(s), the Senate shall debate the issue and recommend either endorsement of the proposal or rejection of the proposal. The recommendation of the Senate shall be presented to the Chief Administrative Officer of the College and to the heads of all departments affected by the proposal.

NOTE: Should any step or steps of these procedures fall outside the normal academic year, deadlines shall be extended appropriately.

IV. Implementation

In the event that academic departments or primary units are to be reorganized, a joint committee of faculty from all affected departments or units shall be formed by the heads of the departments or units to coordinate the implementation process.

* The statement on goals for academic reorganization is contained in the final report of the Subcommittee on Goals, Constraints and Objectives of the Committee on Academic Reorganization, dated September 25, 1975.