

University Faculty Senate
Executive Committee
166th Plenary
University at Albany
January 25, 2014

Resolution on Seamless Transfer Paths

Whereas, the University Faculty Senate and the Faculty Council of Community Colleges have long supported the concept of seamless transfer and have worked closely with SUNY System Administration to establish processes and procedures to ensure seamless transfer for students, and

Whereas, groups of faculty members from State-operated campuses and community colleges, including over 400 faculty members selected in consultation with the UFS and FCCC, worked together for at least a year to identify courses and descriptors *typical* of foundational and cognate courses in majors that represent those chosen by some 95% of transfer students in SUNY, and

Whereas, those disciplinary panels' mandate was to identify course and content typical of requirements for the first two years for majors at SUNY institutions, but not to define these as universally required courses for those majors, and

Whereas, for seamless transfer to succeed, receiving institutions must accept *satisfactorily completed* courses from defined transfer paths in order to provide each student who has completed an A.A. or A.S. degree with the opportunity to complete the corresponding major in an additional two years of full-time study, a principle endorsed by the UFS, and

Whereas, the diversity of faculty and missions across the SUNY System appropriately leads to differences in the details of requirements and electives for majors, and

Whereas, the Faculty Council of Community Colleges passed resolution #ASA2: 2013-2014, Resolution in Opposition to a *De Facto* Core Curriculum on October 19, 2013, and

Whereas, the University Faculty Senate passed a Sense of the Senate motion at the 165th Plenary meeting at SUNY Maritime on October 26, 2013, opposing the creation of a core curriculum and charging the UFS Executive Committee to formulate a resolution to clarify the Senate's position, and

Whereas, the Interim Provost is working with the UFS and FCCC leadership to establish a process that will allow larger groups of faculty in disciplinary fields to review the transfer paths and advise on their completeness, including any needed additions and/or subtractions,

Therefore, be it resolved that the University Faculty Senate Executive Committee requests that the Interim Provost work with Campus Chief Academic Officers in consultation with their campus faculty governance leaders to identify an appropriate faculty representative for each discipline that has a transfer path related to one for which the campus has a registered program; these disciplinary representatives will review the transfer path courses and descriptors and will recommend to the Interim Provost revisions if necessary to

that transfer path, including whether courses/descriptors are universally required or recommended for transfer into a major, and

Be it further resolved that the deadline for full implementation of minor and major revisions in the Memorandum to Presidents on Seamless Transfer Requirements be extended to be effective for students entering in the Fall semester, 2015, in order to ensure that the revisions to programs incorporate all changes made to the transfer paths. In order to accommodate the process, the deadlines for submitting the first Program Status Inventory and waiver requests will be extended to March 31, 2014.

Background

There are a number of guiding regulation and policies that inform this resolution, including

The Policies of the Board of Trustees, Article X, §4), which reads the “faculty of each college shall have the obligation to participate significantly in the initiation, development and implementation of the educational program.”

And, “New York State Education Law § 355 , which under the “Powers and duties of state university trustees – administrative and fiscal functions” establishes that “the state university trustees shall be responsible for “The approval of the establishment of community colleges and four year colleges authorized by article ... in conformance with the master plan; the provision of standards and regulations covering the organization and operation of their programs, courses and curricula, financing arrangements, state financial assistance” (§1.c),

166-01-1 without dissent

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