

Academic Senate Resolutions on the Academic Affairs Budget Advisory Task Force Report

Presented by the Academic Senators of the College of Science and Mathematics
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Resolution #1

- Whereas: The Academic Affairs Budget Advisory Task Force (AABATF) was charged to recommend sustainable approaches to closing the base budget gap; and
- Whereas: The Academic Senate is the faculty body responsible for recommendations and decisions regarding academic curriculum and policy; and
- Whereas: The AABATF report is a set of recommendations to the Provost and to the Academic Senate, which then makes its own evaluation of those recommendations; and
- Whereas: In order to make its evaluation of the AABATF recommendations, the Academic Senate requires full information about the rationale for those recommendations; therefore be it
- Resolved: The AABATF report does not provide sufficient evidence that the recommendations offer a sustainable approach to closing the base budget gap; and be it further
- Resolved: The AABATF release the budgetary details and financial rationale for its recommendations to the Academic Senate; and be it further
- Resolved: The members of the AABATF appear before the Academic Senate at the February 6, 2012 meeting and, if necessary, in the future before the Academic Policy and Planning Committee and the University Budget Committee to answer questions; and be it further
- Resolved: That the University Budget Committee review the recommendations of the AABATF, the budget information used to reach those recommendations, and the financial rationale for those recommendations; determine whether those recommendations do provide “sustainable approaches”; consider whether there are additional approaches which would contribute to closing the base budget gap while maintaining a strong academic curriculum; and

report its conclusions to the Academic Senate by the end of the semester ;
and be it further

Resolved: That this resolution be forwarded to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and University President.

Resolution # 2

Whereas: The original AABATF report recommended substantial reorganization of the departments and Schools/Colleges of the University; and

Whereas: The revised recommendations of the AABATF state that “mergers between Colleges/Schools or between departments should remain under consideration”; and

Whereas: The long term implications of reorganizing Colleges and Departments are not addressed in either set of recommendations from the AABATF; and

Whereas: Reorganizations such as those proposed in the original AABATF would have profound effects on the very nature of the University and its role in the region, state, and beyond; and

Whereas: As the revised AABATF recommendations note, the Academic Policy and Planning Committee (AP&P) is the “deliberative body of the faculty on matters relating to University academic policy including but not limited to undergraduate curriculum, degree programs, graduation requirements, grading standards, school organization and departmentalization;” therefore be

Resolved: That the Academic Policy and Planning Committee of the Academic Senate review the task force recommendations and evaluate the short term and long term effects of those recommendations on the students, faculty, and academic curriculum and policy and report its findings to the Academic Senate; and be it further

Resolved: That any plans to restructure Schools/Colleges and departments must include consideration by AP&P as to the implications for academic curriculum and policy; and be it further

Resolved: That AP&P and the Academic Senate must be involved in all ongoing planning to deal with current and future budget cuts; and be it further

Resolved: That AP& P continue to monitor and review the effects of the AABATF recommendations as they are implemented and provide information to the Academic Senate regarding those effects on academic curriculum and policy; and be it further

Resolved: That this resolution be forwarded to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the University President.

Resolution #3

Whereas: The task force has found "inherent shortcomings with the Level B allocation model," and that the model "is not sufficiently responsive to major reductions in funding currently facing the campus," "is sufficiently complex that it limits transparency and cannot effectively be used to estimate how enrollment decisions will impact budgets," and that the model "does not allow for incremental funding for targeted enrollment growth."; therefore be it

Resolved: The organization and representation of the Schools and Colleges remain intact for 2012 – 2013; and be it further

Resolved: The faculty and administration of the university will continue to explore the impact of reorganizing the departments, schools, and departments of academic affairs. The long term (minimum 10 year) impact to the institution should be carefully examined. The impact of reorganization on our service area should also be explored; and be it further

Resolved: The continued evaluation of the impact of reorganizing departments and schools/colleges is the purview of the Academic Senate and its appropriate committees; and be it further

Resolved: The University Budget Committee review the Level A and Level B budget allocation models and make its recommendations for revisions to both level A and level B models to the Academic Senate by September 2014; and be it further

Resolved: That this resolution be forwarded to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and University President.

Revised by the Academic Senate
January 30, 2012