

Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Principles, Guidelines, and Procedures for Major Organizational Restructuring of Academic Units at the University of South Florida.

I. Introduction

Consistent with its role as the principal advisor on academic affairs to the Provost, the Faculty Senate and Provost herein agree upon the guidelines to be followed when major organizational restructuring of academic units is proposed by the administration.

II. Statement of Guidelines

Major organizational restructuring is defined as any creation, dissolution, merger, or separation of academic departments, schools, or colleges. Proposals for major organizational restructuring must be presented to the Faculty Senate and must include a detailed written proposal, including at a minimum:

- a. A description of the proposed changes.
- b. A rationale for the changes.
- c. A reasonable statement of the financial and budgetary implications of the changes.
- d. An examination of the likely consequences of the changes.
- e. A proposed and reasonable timeline for the implementation of the changes.
- f. A brief description of the nature of consultations with the academic entities affected by the changes, including a summary of their units' responses.

III. Implementation

Upon receipt, the written proposal will be considered as a resolution to be discussed at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate. Members of affected academic entities will be invited to comment in writing, with consensus and minority opinions concerning the proposed changes considered at the next (second) meeting of the Faculty Senate. At the third Faculty Senate meeting, discussion of the original proposal and the written responses may be continued, and a vote will be taken on the original proposal. If a proposal is amended, the Faculty Senate will solicit a second round of written comments for discussion at the next Faculty Senate meeting, with a vote occurring on the amended proposal at the subsequent meeting of the Faculty Senate. It is agreed that a final vote on a proposal should ordinarily take no longer than ninety (90) days from initial presentation. The President of the Faculty Senate may call a Special Meeting or, at the request of the Provost, shall call a Special Meeting of the Faculty Senate to expedite consideration and/or a vote, including during the Summer months, if necessary.

It is mutually recognized that the administration holds ultimate authority and responsibility for determining the most appropriate academic structure and organization within the university, including Sec. 447.209, Florida Statute, while the Faculty Senate is bound to fulfill its responsibility as the principal advisor on academic affairs to the Provost including through voting.

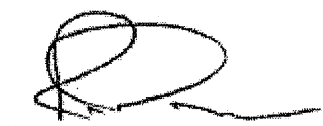
This memorandum of understanding will remain in effect through June 30, 2010, at which time it will be reviewed.

Signed:



Laurence G. Branch, PhD
President, Faculty Senate

2/4/09
Date



Ralph C. Wilcox, PhD
Provost

2/4/09
Date