

To: Senate Executive Committee
From: Steven Alan Carr, Voting Faculty
Date: 23 August 2019
Re: Changes to Academic Programs and Structures

WHEREAS, Senate Document SD 18-11 re-established the Fort Wayne Senate's Right of Advisement in the Development of the University Strategic Plan (<https://www.pfw.edu/committees/senate/documents/documents/2018-19/SD18-11approved.pdf>), and;

WHEREAS, SD 13-21 Resolution to Establish IPFW Senate Right of Advisement in the Development of the University Strategic Plan (<https://www.pfw.edu/dotAsset/13b7f042-94ed-4e54-9f61-a934455e7e66.pdf>), SD 17-7 Realignment and the Senate: Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws (<https://www.pfw.edu/committees/senate/documents/documents/2017-18/SD17-7approved.pdf>), and the Constitution of the Faculty of Purdue University Fort Wayne (<https://www.pfw.edu/committees/senate/documents/documents/2017-18/Constitution.3.12.2018.pdf>) all establish the Voting Faculty's "right to review and recommend changes... that would involve or potentially involve any changes to academic organization, determination and management of the budget, planning of physical facilities, increases and decreases in staff, and any other alterations bearing on the faculty's right to protect the interests of Purdue," and;

WHEREAS, the American Association of University Professors' (AAUP) 1966 Statement on Shared Government of Colleges and Universities established that "the faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction" (<https://www.aaup.org/report/statement-government-colleges-and-universities>), and;

WHEREAS, the AAUP's 2013 The Role of the Faculty in Conditions of Financial Exigency stated that program closures are matters of curriculum, central to the educational missions of colleges and universities – missions over which the faculty should always have primary responsibility. Closures ordered by administrative fiat – even, or especially, when they are ordered by administrators who believe they have done due diligence in program review – are therefore inimical not only to the educational mission of colleges and universities but also to the social contract according to which faculty expertise, academic freedom, and tenure serve the public good (<https://www.aaup.org/file/FinancialExigency.pdf>), and;

WHEREAS, the AAUP's 1966 Statement on Shared Government of Colleges and Universities also recognized that agencies for faculty participation in government "should exist for the presentation of the views of the whole faculty," and consist of "faculty-elected" bodies, as opposed to faculty hand-selected by other bodies to participate in government of the institution;

BE IT RESOLVED, any proposals moving through shared governance structures resulting in changes to the curriculum - including program offerings, subject matter, methods, and modes of instruction - must go before faculty-elected bodies holding primary responsibility for the curriculum and existing for the presentation of the views of the whole faculty, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any changes to academic structure or organization that involve or potentially involve the faculty's ability to deliver curriculum must go before faculty-elected bodies holding primary responsibility for the curriculum and existing for the presentation of the views of the whole faculty, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Voting Faculty, through faculty-elected bodies existing for the presentation of the views of the whole faculty, will retain primary responsibility and sole control over the curriculum "to review and approve" all changes to the curriculum, including program offerings, subject matter, and modes of instruction, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Voting Faculty, through faculty-elected bodies existing for the presentation of the views of the whole faculty, will retain primary responsibility and sole control over any changes to academic structure or organization resulting in any change or potential change to the curriculum, including program offerings, subject matter, and modes of instruction.