

**From:** Jeffrey J Malanson <malansoj@ipfw.edu>  
**Subject:** Academic Restructuring  
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**To:** Jeffrey J Malanson <malansoj@ipfw.edu>

Dear Colleagues:

At last Monday's Faculty Assembly, I talked about the idea that the Realignment process provides those departments that will comprise the new Purdue University campus in Fort Wayne the opportunity to reimagine our academic enterprise from the ground up. We can accomplish this in two ways. First, through reevaluating our current organizational structure, and second, through exploring new interdisciplinary programming and collaborations.

The Senate Executive Committee will present a process to facilitate academic reorganization and to begin the conversation about interdisciplinary programming to the Senate for approval on Monday, February 13. We will also hold a **Faculty Assembly** after the Senate meeting (**1:30 pm in Neff 101**) to present an update on Realignment and academic reorganization and to answer any and all questions you might have.

As a starting point for these conversations about the future, we are asking the faculty, both individually and collectively as departments, to start thinking about what you want that future to look like for your students and your program. If we were to remove all curricular, credit hour, accreditation, and other barriers, what is the educational experience you would want your students to have? What kinds of skills would you want them develop? What kinds of courses, beyond those in your program, would you want them to take? What kinds of interdisciplinary partnerships would be most beneficial for or attractive to your students? How can the university be helping your program grow? What existing programs do you think you could be serving in ways that you are not currently? Use questions like these as the starting point for your conversations.

As you think about the possibilities, you should also start to think about your department's mission and core values and if our current academic organizational structure best positions your department to accomplish everything it wants to accomplish.

We will be in touch soon with more information. In the meantime, let us know if you have any questions.

Jeffrey Malanson, Presiding Officer, Fort Wayne Senate  
Andrew Downs, Speaker of the Indiana University Faculty  
Mark Masters, Speaker of the Purdue University Faculty