

**Resolution on Recommendation by the University Budget Committee to  
Expand Its Membership  
11-06/07-Senate Finance Chair – Oct. 10, 2006**

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University supports the recommendation passed by the University Budget Committee (UBC) on Friday, Oct. 6, 2006, to President Richmond, that retains the UBC's current "co-chair" model (including the Chair of the Academic Senate (who votes only to break a tie) and the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs (non-voting member), and expands its voting membership to include additional administrators, one additional staff person and another student (as outlined below); and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University forwards this resolution to the President of HSU, the Faculty of HSU, and the Associated Students of HSU.

**RATIONALE:** *In response to the request by President Richmond and after much discussion about the merits of changing committee chair structure and adding administrators as voting members, the UBC voted (8-0-1) to retain the current "co-chair" model and to expand its current voting membership in the following manner:*

Recommended additions to UBC would include:

- Academic Affairs: A designee of the Provost/VP of OAA (given that the Provost/VP of OAA is co-chair of UBC)
- Administrative Affairs: The Vice President of Administrative Affairs or designee
- Student Affairs: The Vice President of Student Affairs or designee
- University Advancement: The Vice President of University Advancement or designee
- One Staff representative, University Advancement (to parallel the existing membership of one staff person from each division)
- One additional student for a total of three students (the three students must represent majors in each of the three Colleges within Academic Affairs and include the President of the Associated Students).

In summary, the recommended University Budget Committee membership would now include:

- Faculty – 6 (one voting only to break a tie)
- Administrators – 5 (one non-voting)
- Staff – 4
- Students – 3

The UBC's recommendation first supported the existing model in having the Chair of the Academic Senate and the Provost remain as co-chairs of the UBC because of its inherent balanced or shared faculty-administrative structure. The UBC's motion also supported adding the current Vice Presidents or designee from all four divisions so their knowledge and expertise would be at the table as voting members. This motion also included a staff person from the University Advancement division to create parallel staff representation with other divisions. The UBC lastly supported the addition of a third student as voting member to allow representation from all three Colleges within OAA.

The UBC's charge is to:

- Advise the President on general budget policy issues that affect the University;
- Become informed regarding the annual budget of the University;
- Determine a methodology to use in the evaluation of augmentation requests; and
- Recommend budget allocations for divisional initiatives.

FAILED UNANIMOUSLY – October 10, 2006

October 16, 2006

Dr. Rollin Richmond  
President  
Humboldt State University  
Arcata, Ca 95521

Dear President Richmond:

Thanks to your vision and the work of two ad hoc committees formed by you, Humboldt State University has a budget policy and process in place, as well as a University Budget Committee that functions relatively well. The Academic Senate recommended the current budget policy and process to you, subject to review in fall 2006. The original recommendations (Senate resolutions #01-03/04-SF and #11-03/04-SF) imply that the Academic Senate should be responsible for this review. We will require sufficient time to provide you with an informed response.

On October 10, 2006, the Senate received and reviewed a recommendation from the University Budget Committee, proposing the expansion of its membership (see Resolution #11-06/07-Senate Finance Chair). The Senate had serious concerns regarding the UBC's recommendation, and the resolution, which supported the UBC's recommendation. After an extensive discussion, the resolution was voted down unanimously. I was asked to convey the Senate's concerns to you and request that you defer making a decision regarding the UBC's recommendation until November 1, in order to allow the Senate Executive Committee sufficient time to further discuss the issue and consult with you.

Specific concerns about the UBC's recommendation were cited. The proposed structure, which reduces the voting percentage of the faculty to less than 50%, has little credibility with the Senate. In addition, several senators felt that the current University Budget Committee, which is modeled after Long Beach, is functioning well. Also, it is not clear whether this recommendation is for a permanent re-structuring of the UBC, or is intended as a temporary measure for this year only. The Senate feels that a more thorough review is needed before the UBC undergoes any permanent restructuring.

Furthermore, the Senate feels that the task of working towards eliminating the university's structural deficit by reducing expenditures by \$2M for 2007/2008 is of such a great magnitude that a larger group than the UBC should be responsible for it. The

Senate believes an ad hoc task force should be formed to deal with the budget reduction that includes broad representation from university constituencies and that the Senate should be involved closely in the consultative process that defines the membership of this task force. This task force still could be charged to complete its job by March 2007.

The university is in the midst of a crisis. The Senate believes the faculty should be actively involved in investigating possibilities and finding solutions to our budget crisis.

Sincerely,

Saeed Mortazavi, Chair  
Academic Senate