

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
Academic Senate

Resolution on Forwarding the Proposed University Senate Documents to the General Faculty

#28-10/11-FAC – April 12, 2011 – Second Reading

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that the attached *Revision to the Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University* (Appendix E, *HSU Faculty Handbook*) be submitted to the General Faculty of Humboldt State University for a ratification vote via electronic ballot; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that the attached *Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* and the attached *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* be submitted to the General Faculty of Humboldt State University for a ratification vote via electronic ballot; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that should the *Revision to the Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University*, the proposed *Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* and the proposed *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* be ratified by a majority vote of the General Faculty in residence that they will become effective at the beginning of the Spring semester 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that the following statement on delegation of authority be put to a vote of the General Faculty at the time of the vote on the attached documents:

Should the *Revision to the Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University*, the proposed *Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University*, and the proposed *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* be adopted by majority vote of the General faculty voting, the General Faculty delegates to the Academic Senate the authority and responsibility for creating and implementing the procedures necessary to provide for a smooth transition to the adopted governance structure and the current governance structure shall remain in place until such time as that transition can be accomplished with an anticipated completion date of no later than January 30, 2012.

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that should any of these three documents (the *Revision to the Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University*, the proposed *Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University*, and the proposed *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the University Senate of Humboldt State University*, NOT be ratified by a majority of the faculty voting, then the current

General Faculty Constitution (Appendix E of the Faculty Handbook), including Article IV (The Academic Senate), and the Bylaws and Rules of the Academic Senate (Appendix F of the Faculty Handbook) shall remain effective until such time as revised or amended by the General Faculty.

Rationale: In its February 2, 2010 report, *Building the Capacity for Change: Improving the Structure and Culture of Decision making at HSU*, the Cabinet for Institutional Change made specific recommendations with regard to campus governance at HSU (Section 2 of the Focus Areas). In the background discussion the Cabinet provided, they noted that "...all constituencies should be directly involved in developing policy that reflects shared goals ..." (p.9). After review of the report, the Academic Senate referred the governance issues in the document to the Faculty Affairs Committee for review. Based on a report from that committee, the Senate charged the committee to "begin articulating, in written form and to the wider HSU community, a new Senate structure for HSU, a *University Senate* built on the model of the Senate at SDSU..." (April 2, 2010). The Faculty Affairs committee has worked on that charge, conferring frequently with the Senate and holding Town Hall meetings during the fall semester to gather input.

The Academic Senate of Humboldt State University was created by the Constitution of the General Faculty. It serves as the primary voice of the faculty and is given its powers by the General Faculty Constitution. It is not a body of the University; it is a body of the General Faculty. The HSU Academic Senate does include administrators, staff and students, though in small numbers and with limited voting privileges. However, only the faculty can vote to change the General Faculty Constitution, and in doing so dissolve the Academic Senate and replace it with a University Senate.