

SUNY at Stony Brook – Graduate Student Organization

RESOLUTION ON THE SHARED SERVICE CENTERS

October 11, 2011

Whereas, the State of New York has slashed the budget for all SUNY institutions, including the Stony Brook University campus, forcing the Administration to save money where possible,

Whereas, budget constraints have resulted in the Administration's inability to hire new staff to fill vacant positions due to either early retirement programs or staff moving to other institutions,

Whereas, Project 50 Forward puts forth the idea of Shared Service Centers (SSC) as a feasible solution that demonstrates both fiscal responsibility and dedication to the academic mission of the University,

Whereas, as the Graduate Student Organization (GSO), we have advocated for a transparent and efficient use of resources that ensures the well-functioning of academic and research activities,

Whereas, to date there is no official document or communication explaining the benefits of SSCs and detailing step-by-step the planned implementation of SSC's,

Whereas, University officials have on one hand said this is a plan to be carefully developed over the years, rather than an overnight revamping of the administrative structure, while on the other hand they have already implemented an SSC on the Art and Theater departments and aimed at the Humanities department for next year,

Whereas, the ultimate goal of GSO is to ensure the welfare of all graduate students at Stony Brook,

Be it Resolved that we ask the Administration to compile a detailed report regarding the timeline, implementation, and projected impact of SSC's on the life of graduate students at Stony Brook with respect to access and quality,

Be it Further Resolved that, we call upon University officials to have a graduate student representative on the Steering Committee in charge of researching and implementing the Shared Service Centers initiative,

Be it Further Resolved that, we implore the Steering Committee to proceed with caution and first evaluate and assess the outcomes of the first academic SSC in Art and Theater, before moving onto any other academic unit,

Finally be it Resolved, that the student community becomes involved in the implementation of these changes within their academic units.