



**SUNY
BROCKPORT**

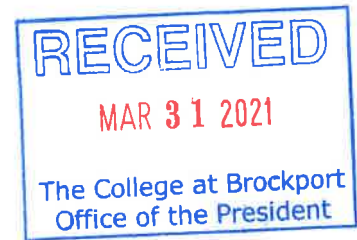
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Brockport, NY 14420
senate@brockport.edu

**Resolution # 10 2020-21
College Senate**

Supersedes Resolution #

To: Dr. Heidi Macpherson, College President
From: Cathy Houston-Wilson, College Senate President
Re:

- I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
- II. Recommendation (Urging the Fitness of)
- III. Other, For Your Information (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)



SUBJ: Endorse UFS Res. – Importance of Shared Governance in Crisis (#14_20-21 EC)

Signed: Cathy Houston-Wilson Date: 3/31/21
(Dr. Cathy Houston-Wilson, 2020-2021 College Senate President)

Implementation of resolution requires final approval from:

SUNY Yes No NYS Dept of Education Yes No

Signed: Eileen Daniel Date: 4-1-21
(Dr. Eileen Daniel, Vice Provost, SUNY Brockport)

Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution (circle choice below)

- a. Accepted
- b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate
- c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation.

Signed: Heidi Macpherson Date: 5/5/21
(Dr. Heidi Macpherson, College President, SUNY Brockport)

Implementation Effective Date: _____

DISTRIBUTION:

The College Senate President will forward the signed resolution to the Vice Provost for determination as to whether the implementation of the resolution requires final approval from SUNY and/or the State Education Dept. The Vice Provost will then sign and forward the resolution with that designation to the College President. Upon approval, the College President will forward the resolution to an Administrative Assistant who will distribute the final resolution to the Senate Office. The Senate Office will scan the resolution and send to the Coordinator of Digital Commons where it will be posted to https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/senate_resolutions/

**COLLEGE SENATE OFFICE
RESOLUTION PROPOSAL COVER PAGE**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: January 31

Incomplete proposals will be returned and proposals received after the deadline may not be reviewed until next semester.

See https://brockport.edu/support/college_senate/proposals.html for full details.
Complete this cover page. Email it along with all relevant files (individual .docx or .pdf files) to senate@brockport.edu. Your proposal will be made into an ADA compliant PDF, will receive page numbering and a routing number, and will be forwarded onto the appropriate committee chair(s).

Routing Number <i>Routing # assigned by Senate Office</i>	14_20-21EC
This Proposal Replaces Resolution	
Revision Date(s)	
Anticipated Effective Date:	

Title of Proposal in Title Style

Resolution asking the College Senate to Endorse the UFS resolution on the Importance of Maintaining Effective Shared Governance in Times of Crisis

Brief Description of Proposal

This resolution endorses the UFS resolution asking the SUNY Chancellor to reinforce to Campus Presidents the importance of supporting shared governance even in times of crisis, and calls on Campus Governance Leaders to ensure that campus governance bodies have structures and processes that allow them to respond expeditiously when campuses are dealing with emergency situations.

Budgetary Resources Needed

none

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Data

none

Effect on Transfer Students

none

Proposer Information

Katherine Clark Walter and John Keiser, University Faculty Senators

Senate Office Use Only

Standing Committee	Forwarded To	Dates Forwarded
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Committee	Standing Committee	11/2/2020
<input type="checkbox"/> Engagement & Enrollment Planning & Policies	Executive Committee	
<input type="checkbox"/> Faculty & Professional Staff Policies	Senate	
<input type="checkbox"/> General Education & Curriculum Policies	Passed GED's go to Vice Provost	
<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Curriculum & Policies	College President	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Policies	OTHER	
<input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Curriculum & Policies	REJECTED -WITHDRAWN	

NOTES:

Rationale:

[W1] WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic creates a prolonged crisis situation that is greatly affecting all aspects of society, including the way that educational institutions such as SUNY carry out their missions; and

[W2] WHEREAS this is not the first, nor is it likely to be the last, crisis to affect SUNY, such as fiscal exigencies, civil unrest, natural disasters, and public health emergencies; and

[W3] WHEREAS the current COVID-19 pandemic is the latest example of a crisis that further strains the ability to maintain effective communication, while simultaneously being a time where good communication continues to be critical to provide the support that students, faculty, and staff need; and

[W4] WHEREAS some decisions during a crisis are made by federal, state, and local entities, such as the New York State Office of the Governor, which require quick action by SUNY and local campuses; and

[W5] WHEREAS crisis situations do not negate the principles and importance of shared governance in planning, decision-making, and implementation of policies and actions; and

[W6] WHEREAS although some campuses have reported the continued use of effective shared governance practices during the current crisis, others have reported a breakdown of shared governance in areas such as faculty senate review of changing academic policies, lack of faculty involvement on emergency planning task forces, and inconsistent and insufficient communication from administration to campus constituencies; and

[W7] WHEREAS crisis situations do not necessarily occur within the confines of the academic year, or within the typical timetable under which campus governance structures operate; and

[W8] WHEREAS some campus governance bodies may lack the necessary practices or bylaws to allow for quick action in emergency situations, or outside of the typical academic calendar;

RESOLUTION:

[R1] THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the SUNY Brockport College Senate endorses the resolution of the University Faculty Senate requesting that the Chancellor remind campus presidents of the importance of maintaining good shared governance practices and timely communication at all times, including during times of crisis; and

[R2] BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SUNY Brockport College Senate endorses the University Faculty Senate request that Campus Governance Leaders on each campus ensure that the appropriate shared governance structures and bylaws are in place to expedite shared governance work during crisis situations, within or outside of the traditional academic calendar; and

[R3] BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SUNY Brockport College Senate endorses the University Faculty Senate request that Campus Governance Leaders review the attached suggestions for effective shared governance practices, and work with local governance bodies and administration to adopt those that they believe would be appropriate for their campuses.

SUGGESTIONS:

Work with local campus administration to establish faculty governance representation on local President's Cabinets, Provosts Cabinets, budget committees, or other administrative decision-making bodies, if this does not already exist. If this is established as normal practice, it will ensure continuity during an emergency situation.

Work with local campus administration to establish expectations for faculty governance representation on committees or task forces that may be created for emergencies.

Review bylaws to ensure that they allow for:

- Actions by executive committees on behalf of governance bodies between regularly scheduled meetings and during breaks in the academic calendar.
- Special meetings by governance bodies when necessary.
- Remote governance body meetings, when in-person meetings are not possible.
- Mechanisms for secure and accurate voting during remote governance body meetings. This would include elections of governance leaders.
- Clearly defined terms of office for elected governance leaders.

