

SUNY Fredonia Faculty Resolution on System-Wide Assessment

10/20/03

Whereas the primary goal for faculty with regards to assessment is the improvement of teaching and learning; and

Whereas SUNY Fredonia is an acknowledged leader in its assessment of general education throughout SUNY and in its Middle States accreditation; and

Whereas the mandated requirements by the SUNY Board of Trustees with regard to a system – wide general education curriculum and for its campus-based assessment were never funded; and

Whereas future funding for the enhancement/improvement of general education is unlikely in view of the recurring reductions of state funding to SUNY; and

Whereas resources will be diverted from campus-based programs to SUNY System Administration to offset the cost of a valid system-wide assessment; and

Whereas a valid system-wide assessment **must** involve the faculty of each SUNY school in the development and approval of all assessment standards and methodologies; and

Whereas a valid system-wide assessment must provide sufficient time to realistically develop, pilot test, and conduct formative and summative evaluations of a system-wide assessment prior to system-wide implementation (if that implementation proves warranted); and

Whereas SUNY Board of Trustees' resolution (98-241) instructed the Provost to work with leadership and faculty of the University's campuses to develop a means of assuring that demonstrable learning in specified general education subjects is taking place by specifying value-added system-wide assessment; and

Whereas faculty input was denied by the SUNY Board of Trustees in their hastily passed resolution of June 17, 2003 calling for the beginning of the process leading to implementation of University-wide assessment thereby **circumventing** the aforementioned resolution (98-241).

Be it resolved that

- The faculty of SUNY Fredonia recognize the passage of the aforementioned resolution by the Board of Trustees on June 17, 2003 as a breach of its partnership with the University's faculty to provide the best possible education for its students and that
- The faculty of SUNY Fredonia cannot support any system-wide assessment without having a detailed analysis of its cost, feasibility, and effectiveness to both the campuses and to SUNY Systems Administration and that
- The faculty of SUNY Fredonia cannot support participation in any system-wide assessment that has not been approved by the majority of the faculty of SUNY Fredonia.