

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate
FROM: Maureen Dolan, Chair (provisional)
DATE: September 18, 1992
SUBJ: Resignation

Maureen Dolan

My fellow Senators, you have entrusted me with the great and humbling task of leading this faculty body through a pivotal year of new governance structure. Those of you who know of my sense of adventure can especially appreciate my eagerness to pioneer new territory - whether in academic life or the western mountain wilderness or the uncharted areas of the mathematical sciences.

At the first Senate meeting last Friday (9/11/92), upon hearing my name placed in nomination for Senate Chair (timed precisely as I rushed into the room, running late from another meeting), I was momentarily overwhelmed by the excitement of the year that lie ahead. As the Senate trailblazes a new system of governance, there is a tremendous potential to climb to new heights and discover remarkable vistas; there is also the potential to wander aimlessly in circles, the risk of getting lost. This year, in particular, calls for effective leadership and bold navigation.

In the *moments* after election to Chair, I knew that I was ready for the journey. My colleagues knew that I would neither shirk confrontation nor shrink from possible controversy, though in quiet calm and conciliation often challenges are met and victories achieved.

In the *hours* after election to Chair, I realized that certain circumstances in the 1992-93 academic year would preclude my ability to lead the Faculty Senate. I remembered the ongoing research projects [on behalf of NSF, ASME and ORSA] for which I am fully responsible, as well as the tenure file which I must complete by February 1993. These activities demand the greater part of my energy. So it is the proverbial *lack of time* which impels me to submit my resignation as Chair of the Faculty Senate, effective [immediately] upon the election/appointment of a new Chair.

I regret any inconvenience this may cause the Senate, and I pledge my support for the new Chair. As an at-large faculty representative, I will continue to work with my fellow Senators as we seek, together, a better path toward the new horizon.