

TO: University Faculty Senate
FROM: Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee
SUBJECT: A.A.S. and A.O.S. "Bridge Programs"

RATIONALE

WHEREAS SUNY 2000 has reaffirmed SUNY's commitment to that large segment of New York State residents who begin their pursuit of postsecondary education with Associate of Applied Science and Associate of Occupational Science degrees;

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has reaffirmed that students in SUNY A.A.S. degree programs should not be treated with prejudice when applying to SUNY baccalaureate degree granting campuses;

WHEREAS, despite these assurances, a majority of respondents from SUNY college of technology and community college programs report increased problems with A.A.S. students seeking to transfer to other SUNY units;

WHEREAS a majority of those respondents also stated they would or could not modify the programs in question to meet Associate of Science liberal arts degree requirements; and

WHEREAS 90% of the respondents reported they are in favor of working with SUNY baccalaureate degree granting institutions to create "Bridge Programs"* to facilitate transfer;

RESOLUTION

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the University Faculty Senate urges the Chancellor to support the concept of "Bridge Programs"* and encourage the presidents of baccalaureate degree granting institutions to develop these opportunities on their campuses.

*"Bridge Programs" are defined as summer and/or preadmit programs of advisement and course work at the receiving institution to link A.A.S. and similar curricula with upper division programs. Bridge Programs often provide general education requirements, prerequisite work and other courses that "bridge" the difference between A.A.S. and A.O.S. curricula and that of an Associate of Science degree. The intent is to facilitate transfer, transition, and the timely completion of the baccalaureate degree.