

State University of New York / College at Old Westbury

Old Westbury
Long Island, New York 11568
Telephone (516) 876-3000

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Stephen Kirkpatrick, Chair, Faculty Council
FROM: Council of Conveners and Chairs
DATE: April 30, 1992
RE: Response to Faculty Charge

At the March 6 Faculty Meeting, the Faculty charged the Council of Conveners and Chairs to propose a faculty position on reorganization and other issues arising during the budget crisis.

The Council, at its April 28th meeting, voted unanimously to provide the Faculty with the following report.

- In response to the charge of the Faculty, Conveners' Council sent a position statement to Dr. Hall, dated March 26. (attached) In essence, the Council's position was not to initiate any discussion of reorganization, faculty reductions or other related matters, but to respond speedily to any plans proposed by Dr. Hall or the administration by convening a special meeting for this purpose.
2. At the April 14 meeting of Conveners' Council, Dr. Hall requested that Conveners and Chairs meet on April 21 to discuss some of the details of his proposal for budget cuts.
 3. On Monday, April 20, Dr. Hall canceled the April 21 meeting.
 4. Some Conveners/Chairs requested a special meeting be called for April 23 to discuss rumors and information about recommended cuts.
 5. At the April 23 meeting, a series of questions were developed about recommended budget cuts; they were to be asked of Dr. Hall at the meeting he scheduled for April 28. (attached)
 6. At the April 28 meeting, Dr. Hall provided the following information (an iteration of information provided at the April 14 meeting):
 - a. Cuts in Academic area: 6.5 lines = \$261,451
Temp Services = 51,998
OTPS = 74,???
 - b. Total Cuts = \$380,000

7. When asked for additional information about recommendations for specific implementation, or further discussion of the recommendations, Dr. Hall responded that other than a recommendation to deactivate some programs, which he would not identify, he cannot and will not be more specific, nor will he share further information, since his recommendations have not been acted upon by the President, nor has the plan to be sent to Albany been finalized.
8. Dr. Hall stated that he would like to respond to the series of questions developed by Conveners' Council at the April 23 meeting. He stated that after he had time to prepare, he would meet with Conveners' Council to speak to these issues. To date, as the above chronology indicates, the Conveners' Council has no information upon which to base a proposal to the Faculty.



Old Westbury

MEMORANDUM

TO : Dr. Ken Hall, Vice President for Academic Affairs
FROM: Patrick O'Sullivan, Chairperson, Conveners' Council
DATE: March 26, 1992
RE : Conveners' Council Position on Budget Reductions

Due to an egregious lack of information, the incredibly short time frame for action, and the disturbing implications of the additional line reductions, the members of the Conveners' Council did not have sufficient time to develop a comprehensive position statement. Yet, the members did indicate that a brief statement conveying their concerns and resolve should be sent to you immediately.

The Conveners' Council will not initiate any discussions on reorganization, faculty reductions or other related matters, but will respond speedily to any plans you or the administration proposes by convening a special meeting for this purpose. The Conveners' Council, with representatives from all departments, is the appropriate body to assess the impact of any proposed plans before being sent to SUNY Central. Additionally, numerous questions were raised about the mechanical application of a benchmark formula as a means of determining the allocation of line reductions at Old Westbury. The Conveners' Council is willing to meet with you anytime - on very short notice - when you complete your proposal.

Dr. Hall, I will call a Conveners' Council meeting - at any time - on notice from you.

POS:pl

cc: Members of Conveners' Council

Minutes of Conveners' Council Meeting of April 23, 1992

Present: M. Adams, L. Anker, A. Blasius, M. A. Derby, M. Feder-Marcus, E. Garrity, R. Gonzalez, S. Hickey, N. Jung, E. Landy, H. Lewittes, M. Metlay

A special meeting of Conveners' Council was called after the April 21 meeting scheduled by Dr. Hall was canceled.

After considerable discussion, those present agreed to a list of questions to be asked of Dr. Hall at the next meeting. It was agreed that all would participate in the attempt to clarify the situation.

I. Framework

- A. What did SUNY specify as to the scope and particulars of cuts?
- B. What were the scope and particulars of Old Westbury guidelines for recommended cuts?
- C. What specific cuts have been made in each Vice Presidential area?
- D. What specific evidence exists that indicates retrenchment was indeed the "last resort?" That is, a history of previous budget cuts with specific information as to what was cut, its function and the impact.

II. Procedures: some explanation of process at both Stony Brook and Purchase; what procedure was used at Old Westbury; in what manner can Conveners' Council participate in a discussion which encompasses the impact across the entire campus?

- A. Articulation of the entire restructuring plan (not just in Academic Affairs).
- B. Additional information to make a discussion of the campus wide impact possible.

III. Impact of "recommended" cuts

- A. Curricular impact, i.e., the effect on Basic Education of the loss of the Writing Center and ESOL Center; the impact of the loss of Performing Arts. Both of these are academic issues.
- B. The effect of cuts on the mission of the College, i.e., Writing Center, ESOL, are pieces of support for "nontraditional" students, e.g., 150 non-native English speaking students.
- C. What specific plan is there to replace these supports?
- D. Impact of cuts in Health and Physical Education
 1. On Student Life?
 2. On sports?
 3. Who/what will generate FTE for state funding now?

IV. Union Issues: what does this mean for the individuals involved? Bumping (Matt, Ernie, Duncan are part of Basic Education in the reporting structure).

- V. Why cut the Academic Area: are there possibilities of cuts in the administrative areas?

VI. Implications of \$51,998 cut in Temp Services (this means people).

Minutes of Conveners' Council Meeting of April 23, 1992

Present: M. Adams, L. Anker, A. Blasius, M. A. Derby, M. Feder-Marcus, E. Garrity, R. Gonzalez, S. Hickey, N. Jung, E. Landy, H. Lewittes, M. Metlay

A special meeting of Conveners' Council was called after the April 21 meeting scheduled by Dr. Hall was canceled.

After considerable discussion, those present agreed to a list of questions to be asked of Dr. Hall at the next meeting. It was agreed that all would participate in the attempt to clarify the situation.

I. Framework

- A. What did SUNY specify as to the scope and particulars of cuts?
- B. What were the scope and particulars of Old Westbury guidelines for recommended cuts?
- C. What specific cuts have been made in each Vice Presidential area?
- D. What specific evidence exists that indicates retrenchment was indeed the "last resort?" That is, a history of previous budget cuts with specific information as to what was cut, its function and the impact.

II. Procedures: some explanation of process at both Stony Brook and Purchase; what procedure was used at Old Westbury; in what manner can Conveners' Council participate in a discussion which encompasses the impact across the entire campus?

- A. Articulation of the entire restructuring plan (not just in Academic Affairs).
- B. Additional information to make a discussion of the campus wide impact possible.

III. Impact of "recommended" cuts

- A. Curricular impact, i.e., the effect on Basic Education of the loss of the Writing Center and ESOL Center; the impact of the loss of Performing Arts. Both of these are academic issues.
- B. The effect of cuts on the mission of the College, i.e., Writing Center, ESOL, are pieces of support for "nontraditional" students, e.g., 150 non-native English speaking students.
- C. What specific plan is there to replace these supports?
- D. Impact of cuts in Health and Physical Education
 1. On Student Life?
 2. On sports?
 3. Who/what will generate FTE for state funding now?

IV. Union Issues: what does this mean for the individuals involved? Bumping (Matt, Ernie, Duncan are part of Basic Education in the reporting structure).

- V. Why cut the Academic Area: are there possibilities of cuts in the administrative areas?

VI. Implications of \$51,998 cut in Temp Services (this means people).

REPORT OF CHAIR OF FACULTY SENATE
FACULTY MEETING, OCTOBER 9, 1992

Good morning. For those of you who do not know me: I am Runi Mukherji, a faculty member of the Psychology Program, and Chair of the Faculty Senate and it is my pleasure to welcome you to the first Faculty Meeting of the 1992-93 academic year.

As you must be aware, the Faculty of SUNY College at Old Westbury last academic year ratified a new set of ByLaws amendments that established a Faculty Senate. The ByLaws also require that a full faculty meeting be held at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters and once before the Spring commencement. This is the Fall meeting of the Faculty, and another will be held within thirty days of the start of the Spring semester.

The Faculty Senate has met twice already this semester, and I would like to make you all cognizant of some of the issues that have already been brought to the floor of the Faculty Senate, some of the steps we have already taken, and, perhaps most importantly, of the general approaches that we will be taking in addressing issues of faculty governance that will be brought before us.

At the risk of re-stating what may be obvious to many of you but in the interest of establishing a context for some of the procedures and actions we have undertaken, I would like to quote to you a passage that outlines and describes the roles and responsibilities of the Faculty, taken from the statement on the government of Colleges and Universities:

The faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process. On these matters the power of review or final decision lodged in the governing board or delegated to it by the president should be exercised adversely only in exceptional circumstances, and for reasons communicated to the faculty. It is desirable that faculty should, following