



Old Westbury

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Faculty Senators
FROM: Runi Mukherji, Chair, Faculty Senate
DATE: May 7, 1993
RE: CAP Report

CAP has consented to the Senate request to bring the Language and Literature proposal (registered by State Education) to the Senate floor for discussion. The attached resolution concerning Language and Literature is sponsored by CAP.

The proposal was previously circulated along with the agenda for the April 2, 1993 Senate meeting. If you need a copy of that document you may obtain one from Janet Harran, Faculty Secretary, Room B132a (876-3117).

Resolution on the Degree in Language and Literature

Whereas a degree in Language and Literature (LL) has been approved by SUNY/Central and registered by the State Education Department (SED) without the prior approval of the Curriculum and Academic Planning Committee (CAP) and the Faculty Senate;

Whereas CAP has now reviewed the LL curriculum and has recommended to the Faculty Senate that the degree should be implemented by the Comparative Humanities Program (CH) because of the very large number of CH courses included in the curriculum, as registered;

Whereas the Administration has already decreed that the responsibility for implementation will lie with the English Language Studies Program (ELS);

Whereas these conflicting positions on the locus of responsibility have occasioned a heated debate among faculty, with some members expressing sympathy with ELS in its desire to join the ranks of degree-granting programs after more than 20 years as a service program, and others siding with CH which, for more than 20 years, has offered a wide range of literature courses within its comparative and cross-cultural curriculum;

Whereas the registered LL curriculum is broad enough to accommodate both the degree aspirations of ELS and the curricular interests of CH in ways that would actually enrich the options in literature available to students; and,

Whereas continued faculty divisiveness on this subject can only be counterproductive,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate direct representatives of English Language Studies, Comparative Humanities, and the Curriculum and Academic Planning Committee to convene as soon as possible to make adjustments to the Language and Literature degree curriculum, which, while conforming with the broad parameters of the one approved by the State Education Department, will provide for a common core of courses and two degree options, one to be administered by English Language Studies and the other by Comparative Humanities.