

# Senate Resolution 09/10-07: College/Department Combinations and Process

**WHEREAS:** The Senate has been informed that the President made the decision to merge Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and Science and the Provost in response has formed committees to implement the merger of Science with Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and Computer Science with Electrical Engineering/Computer Engineering; and

**WHEREAS:** The Senate's Realignment Committee reported to the Senate and the President that faculty accepted processes should be in place and followed prior to realignment (a sentiment which underlies two of our past actions: Senate Bills 091006 and 080909A); and

**WHEREAS:** Faculty Senate Bill 080909A established that college mergers should be explored only after the affected colleges have examined all their options (Section 1.6), yet the Senate has no evidence that indicates that options besides the merger of Science and Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences have been considered; and

**WHEREAS:** The Furgason Report recommended studying consolidation of small and/or low productivity units and Institutional Research documentation suggests that Computer Science in particular is a highly productive unit; and

**WHEREAS:** The realignment procedure formally accepted by faculty representation (expressed in one major bill of this Senate) has not been accepted by the university as university policy; and

**WHEREAS:** The leading administrators have also not accepted requests from the Senate floor to agree to follow the Senate approved realignment procedure for the current round of realignments without necessarily accepting the Senate approved procedure for future realignments;

## **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. That the university delay implementation of the combination of Computer science with Electrical Engineering/Computer Engineering and the combination of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and Science until formal procedures for faculty involvement in discussions regarding mergers or realignment have been established; and
2. That formal procedures regarding faculty involvement should include a written proposal that documents the formation of committees including selection of members, representation of faculty from affected units and the faculty senate, a protocol for gathering information from affected units, and documentation of findings of the committee; and
3. That the formal plan regarding procedures to include faculty involvement be developed by members of faculty and agreed to by faculty in the affected units.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

4. That a merger or realignment plan should not be an outcome that is predetermined in the absence of a set of formal procedures that will guarantee faculty involvement in all stages of decision-making related to a merger or restructuring of academic units.

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