

**Faculty Senate Resolution 20/21-11:
Resolution of Concern Over Lack of Due Process in Merging/Splitting Academic Units**

History: At FSEC Feb. 13, 2020 for First Reading, Passed First Reading as Senate Bill 446

At Senate Feb. 20, 2020 for Second Reading. Returned to FSEC for possible improvement.

FSEC on Jan. 15, 2021 set bill for return to Senate.

At Senate Jan. 21, 2021. Passed Second Reading that day. Passed Third Reading that day, becoming Senate Resolution 20/21-11

WHEREAS, academic departments and programs form the core of the university's academic mission; and

WHEREAS, the makeup of academic departments and programs has significant implications for faculty in terms of tenure, promotion, external funding, and internal allocation of resources, thus making faculty involvement crucial in these decisions, and

WHEREAS, in Fall 2019, concerns were expressed about the absence of notice and/or evidence of due process in the decision to move a program from one department to another, involving no review by the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee or any other faculty senate committee, and

WHEREAS, in Spring 2020, two departments were merged, again with an absence of notice and/or evidence of due process, and

WHEREAS, UAH Policy 02.01.14 (Creating and Changing Undergraduate Programs) clearly specifies a process whereby departments, colleges, and the Faculty Senate Curriculum committee should be involved,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Faculty Senate of the University of Alabama in Huntsville express its concern to the administration that its judgments and recommendations about merging/splitting departments and program have not been heeded by the current administration. The Senate requests that the administration make public its decision-making process for this academic year's decisions. The Senate requests that the administration publish its process or policy for future such decisions, along with its procedures for ensuring that such a process will be followed;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That upon Senate passage of this resolution, that the Faculty Senate President and President-Elect publish this resolution upon the official records of the Faculty Senate