

Process for Unit Mergers or Other Structural Changes

. . . aka S-1403

-- Introduced at Last Meeting

-- Voted on at This Meeting

Review of Background

- Several merger processes in recent past, where Senate
 - Noted lack of timely notification, forcing unnecessarily constricted time frame
 - Strongly indicated ‘short notice’ should not be repeated
- Repeated situation motivated Senate to consider mechanism
 - Establish streamlined process for future
 - Enable careful and appropriate consideration

Review of Considerations

- For merging, dissolution, creation, or restructuring of any unit
 - Allow proper deliberation
 - Establish standardized process
- Clarification required in University Policy 50.2.2 regarding Senate's role
 - Section A defines *regulatory* authority
 - Section B defines *advisory* authority
- University Senate is
 - The unique single body that encompasses all Rutgers communities
 - All campuses, all units, all constituency groups
 - Deliberative
 - Foundational element of University's Strategic Plan

Recommendations

- Recommendation 1
 - Modify University Policy 50.2.2 B, incorporating *“The Senate holds regulatory authority that is within the purview of shared governance such as the establishment, dissolution, merging, or major restructuring of colleges, schools, institutes, and other units, as listed in Rutgers policy 10.1.2”*
 - Enables flexibility for addressing higher-level changes, without getting inappropriately involved with lower-level changes

Recommendations

- Recommendation 2
 - Establishes related “Senate Questionnaire” for administrators desiring structural changes
 - Administrators must submit related proposal to Senate Executive Committee
 - If Exec Comm decides proposed change is major
 - Senate will strive to decide on request within 4 Senate meetings (after Senate Exec receives satisfactorily completed questionnaire) but no longer than 6 meetings
 - Work will be divided among Senate committees, who will ultimately endorse or recommend against proposed change
 - Senate will then deliberate and vote
 - President will submit Senate’s report to Board of Governors

Minor Modification to Recommendation 2

- Non-substantive change proposed from Executive Committee
 - **Would allow Senate Executive Committee to modify the “*Senate Questionnaire*” in the future while administrators would still be required to submit a related proposal**
 - Inserts text in Recommendation 2 and breaks the original sentence into two sentences
- “The form of the proposal will be determined by the Senate Executive Committee,”**

Minor Modification to Recommendation 2

- FROM

The administrator(s) desiring the *“establishment, dissolution, merging, or major restructuring of colleges, schools, institutes, and other units, as listed in Rutgers University policy 10.1.2”* shall submit a proposal to the Senate Executive Committee, as outlined in Appendix A *“Senate Questionnaire for Establishment, Dissolution, Merging, or Major Restructuring of Colleges, Schools, Institutes, and Other Units, as listed in Rutgers University Policy 10.1.2”*

TO

The administrator(s) desiring the *“establishment, dissolution, merging, or major restructuring of colleges, schools, institutes, and other units, as listed in Rutgers University policy 10.1.2”* shall submit a proposal to the Senate Executive Committee. **The form of the proposal will be determined by the Senate Executive Committee**, as outlined in Appendix A *“Senate Questionnaire for Establishment, Dissolution, Merging, or Major Restructuring of Colleges, Schools, Institutes, and Other Units, as listed in Rutgers University Policy 10.1.2”*

Recommendations

- Recommendation 3
 - President will inform Chancellors of required process for structural changes
- Recommendation 4
 - In two years, USGC will re-evaluate process and outcome of implementation
- Recommendation 5
 - Senate Exec Comm will issue charge to USGC to evaluate and develop related process for non-academic units that have broad educational impact