

12-6-1993

Proposal for an Academic Convocation

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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Resolution # 9 1993-94

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering
FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting on December 6, 1993
(Date)
RE: I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
X II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)
For your information

SUBJECT: Proposal for an Academic Convocation

Signed [Signature] Date Sent December 13, 1993
(For the Senate)

TO: The Faculty Senate
FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering
RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution
a. Accepted. Effective Date Fall 94
b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on _____
c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II, III.
a. Received and acknowledged
b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: All list

Distribution Date 12/15/93 Signed: [Signature]
(President of the College)

PROPOSAL FOR AN ACADEMIC CONVOCATION

The Faculty Senate Committee on Academic Quality seeks the endorsement of the full Senate for the following recommendation on the establishment of an academic convocation at the opening of the school year. Such recommendations would be passed on to the Vice-Presidents for Academic and Student Affairs and to the persons charged with organizing the orientation program.

I. The Proposal:

We recommend that the College incorporate a major academic convocation as part of its new student orientation program. Such a convocation should be planned to incorporate as many freshmen, new transfers and their parents as possible. Among the elements which it might include are the following:

- Faculty and staff in full academic dress
- Music, banners
- An address by a highly successful Brockport alumnus/alumnae
- A ringing declaration by some representative of the College or the faculty as to the nature of academic life, its centrality in the collegiate experience, and the rigorous demands it will make on our students. We seek to convey the idea that the college not only offers a great deal to its incoming students, but that it expects a great deal from them as well.
- Some symbolic and participatory transaction to emphasize the mutual commitments made by the students and the College to the educational process.

We ask the Faculty Senate to encourage widespread participation in this event

II. RATIONALE:

A. We need to more effectively acculturate our students to the nature and the demands of academic life. This proposal moves in that direction.

B. We need to convey in as many ways as possible the demanding nature of academic life at Brockport. It is an indirect way of advertizing our excellence. We are committed to providing an opportunity to a wide diversity of students, but we expect a serious response on their part. This proposal signals our seriousness in a concrete fashion at the outset of the academic year.

C. We need to celebrate the central academic function of the college at every conceivable opportunity and to highlight the collective nature of that enterprise. This proposal provides an additional and timely opportunity to do so.