Policy for Student Involvement in Governance of Academic Departments and Programs

The College at Brockport, College Senate

10-22-1979

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Resolution #3, 1979-80

TO:       PRESIDENT ALBERT W. BROWN
FROM:    THE FACULTY SENATE
RE:       XX   I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
           II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
           III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)

SUBJECT:  Policy for Student Involvement in Governance of Academic Departments
           and Programs - Amendments to Resolution #26, 1978-79
           (see attached)

Meeting on October 22, 1979

TO:       THE FACULTY SENATE
FROM:    PRESIDENT ALBERT W. BROWN
RE:       XX  I. DECISION AND ACTION TAKEN ON FORMAL RESOLUTION
           a. Accepted. Effective Date 11/18/79
           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: Suggest it be clarified for discussion

DISTRIBUTION:  Vice Presidents:  Dr. Douglas
                Others as identified:

Signed: Robert C. Lemmerling, President, Faculty Senate

Date Received by the Senate:  11/18/79

(For the Senate)
Policy for Student Involvement in Governance of
Academic Departments and Programs
(amendments to Resolution #26, 1978-79)

Purpose: To implement the University's commitment to student involvement in the
policy-making structure of the college by meaningful participation in academic
departmental and program governance.

Participation in academic governance is not a token gesture; instead, students
are expected to work diligently and constructively within the departments and the
departmental committees to which they are elected and/or assigned. While the
initial burden of implementation falls upon the academic departments and programs
the effective operation of student representation will be the responsi-
bility of the student representatives and the majors, graduate students, or
students involved in a program who elect them.

Implementations

1. Student members selected to participate in the governance of an academic
department or program shall be majors or graduate students in that depart-
ment or program.

2. The students shall have the opportunity of electing student representatives,
the number of which shall be no less than one-fourth and no more than the
number of faculty in that academic department or program.

3. The number of students to be elected or selected (within the stated
minimum and maximum) is a departmental (or program) decision. It is
subject, of course, to revision from year to year. It is recommended that
the initial decision be arrived through consultation with the majors' club
or, in the absence of such an organization, interested students.

4. The selection of student representatives shall be through an annual elective
process, which will allow for nominations by petition, secret balloting, and
recall procedures. If an insufficient number of student representatives is
available through this process, the Chairperson or his/her designee, in
consultation with the BSG, may recommend supplementary student representa-
tives to the department.

In cases where there is to be an election, departments shall assist by
taking the following steps:

a. Publicizing the elections, for example, mailing notices to all majors,
graduate students, or students involved in a program.
b. Providing a list of majors, graduate students, or students involved in a program to be used to check off individuals as they cast their votes at the polling place.

c. In the absence of a major's club, the department will appoint students to organize and supervise the election.

5. Student representatives shall participate in the same manner as faculty members in the deliberative and decision-making processes in areas involving curriculum, scheduling of courses, advisement procedures, student representation, evaluation of courses, and any other departmental matters as may be determined by the faculty and student representatives of the academic department or program. Students may be excluded by the department from committees dealing with confidential and/or personnel matters.

6. Paragraph 5 recognizes that the deliberative and decision-making processes vary from department to department. Therefore, departments shall involve the student representatives within the departmental committees that deal with the range of subjects in which the student representatives have a voice. Participation by the student representatives involves, of course, voting privileges.

7. In those departments or programs where the majors, graduate students, or students involved in a program are not organized into a club, the department shall take steps to establish such an organization. It is only through such an organization that the student representatives can maintain contact with and represent the constituency that elects them.