

April 24, 1996

The following resolution was passed in the meeting of the Faculty Senate, April 16, 1996:

Whereas the Faculty Senate has received notification that the College of Engineering plans to dissolve the Department of Mineral Engineering, and

Whereas in consultation with the department head, it has become clear that the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units document was followed more closely than indicated in the Dean's report, in particular:

1. The report did not indicate how the proposal to dissolve was initiated (i.e. that in fact it was originated by the department faculty), and
2. Faculty deliberations followed the steps outlined in the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units document, and
3. Every member of the department had read and reviewed the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units document, and
4. All the members of the departmental faculty are pleased with the outcomes of reassignment and the process of deliberation, and

Whereas the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units assumes that departmental dissolution will normally be initiated by the dean's office, and

Whereas the Senate is deeply concerned that the Principles & Procedures for the Merger or Discontinuance of Academic Units should be followed very precisely by those making such decisions, and

Whereas the Senate believes that it is critical to the Senate's review function that compliance with all aspects of the procedures be fully and completely documented,

Therefore Be it resolved that the Senate enjoins those who will be involved in similar decisions to document carefully their compliance with University policy.

The resolution passed without dissent. The original resolution contained language approving the dissolution of the department, but Senate as a whole was not certain that the Principles & Procedures gave the Senate the power to approve or disapprove such a move, but merely to look at the procedures which had been followed, and to suggest alternatives if such seemed appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcus Brown