

RESOLUTION

General Studies & Articulation

WHEREAS it is important that students transferring to the University of Alabama from junior colleges be well prepared,

AND WHEREAS the criteria endorsed by the Articulation Committee tend to promote uniform quality,

THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA endorses the Articulation Committee's goal of establishing an approved forty-hour inventory of general studies at two-year colleges that would be accepted for credit by all public four-year colleges in Alabama,

BUT WHEREAS extending the general studies curriculum to sixty hours would necessarily require increased appropriations to provide competent instruction at junior colleges in numerous additional disciplines at a time when postsecondary education is seriously underfunded,

AND WHEREAS any such extension would hinder the ability of the four-year institutions to develop their own curricula in the context of developments within each discipline and complex and mutable accreditation constraints,

AND WHEREAS requiring the University of Alabama to submit its courses to the Articulation committee for approval undermines the constitutional autonomy of the University and its right and responsibility to develop new courses and curricula in response to continual developments in knowledge and changes in pedagogy,

AND WHEREAS in requiring the University of Alabama to submit course descriptions and syllabi for roughly one third of its undergraduate curriculum (some forty semester hours) for its approval, the Articulation Committee has already violated Article XIV, Section 264 of the Constitution of Alabama, 1901, which provides that "The state university shall be under the management and control of a board of trustees,"

AND WHEREAS the expressed intention of some members of the Articulation Committee to require submission of course descriptions and syllabi for roughly one half of the University's undergraduate curriculum (some sixty semester hours) would be a further violation of the same article and section of the Constitution of Alabama,

AND WHEREAS the regulation of textbook selection on this campus by the Articulation Committee, which has already been contemplated by at least one of its

disciplinary committees, would be a further violation of the same article and section of the Constitution of Alabama,

AND WHEREAS the statute creating the Articulation Committee enables any six of its members to approve or disapprove courses and syllabi to be offered by the University of Alabama, in clear violation of the same article and section of the Constitution of Alabama,

THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA urges the administration of this campus and of the University of Alabama System to protect the University's constitutionally established autonomy by every means possible, including appropriate efforts by the UA System's representative to the Articulation Committee, in addition to appropriate efforts in the press, in the legislature, and if necessary, in the courts.

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