



State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Academic Governance

Resolution No: _____

A RESOLUTION of Academic Governance at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Introduced by the Committee on Instructional Quality and Academic Standards

Concerning Hiring Professional Academic Advisors for Academic Programs and/or Departments

Whereas ESF's Undergraduate Student Association passed resolution #05.2016 concerning the state of undergraduate advising (attached); and

Whereas changes in financial aid have made advising effectively more difficult and requiring specific knowledge of state and federal financial aid laws; and

Whereas it is often difficult to keep track of and effectively advise more than 20 students and in some departments faculty have reported significantly more; and

Whereas there is a current model on campus within the departments of landscape architecture, environmental studies and environmental science where a professional academic advisor advises the first and sometimes the second year students effectively reducing the number of total advisees for faculty by one-fourth to one half; and

Whereas there the model within environmental science such that this professional advisor also coordinates and oversees the department's capstone applied learning project; and

Whereas Academic Governance has recently passed a policy that all students will be required to have an applied learning experience which could require additional oversight in some departments; and

Whereas many administrative duties such as reviewing course schedules, updating catalog materials, preparing, and updating advising materials for a department takes substantial time from other faculty duties;

Therefore be it resolved that Academic Governance supports the efforts of the ESF Administration in the consideration and the adoption of a professional academic advisor model for academic programs and/or departments; and

Be it further resolved that Academic Governance would request the ESF Administration consult with academic programs and/or departments with respect to workload reallocation or funding for activities that would support departmental faculty advising and mentoring initiatives; and

Be it further resolved that Academic Governance urges the ESF Administration allow the nature of the duties of these professional academic advisors be determined by the program and department faculty; and

Finally be it resolved that Academic Governance requests that the ESF Administration, as part of their consideration, report on the increased efficiency, effectiveness and financial ramifications associated with hiring these professional academic advisors and report their findings at the first College-wide meeting of Academic Governance in the Fall of 2017.

Approved and adopted the _____ day of _____ 20____.

Vote:

Ayes: _____
Nos: _____
Absent: _____

Secretary for Academic Governance at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry