



State University of New York  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

**Academic Governance**

Resolution No: \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Faculty  
Introduced by the Executive Committee of Academic Governance

**Expressing concern regarding administrative consultation of faculty and professional staff on matters concerning the academic mission**

- (1) Whereas** the Policies and Procedures of the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York require that faculty are to be consulted in all matters concerning the academic mission of SUNY campuses;<sup>1</sup> and
- (2) Whereas** the bylaws of Academic Governance at ESF states “in all matters affecting the academic mission the Membership of Academic Governance must be consulted. Consultation refers to a mutual, publicly shared governance process of deliberation between the President and/or their official designee(s) and the Membership”<sup>2</sup>; and
- (3) Whereas** in late spring of 2017 a search committee for the Chief Information Officer was established without consultation with Academic Governance, the Administration did not follow the agreed upon procedures for establishing such a committee;<sup>3</sup> and
- (4) Whereas** in fall of 2017 a Leadership Council was created and a faculty representative appointed without consultation with Academic Governance, the Administration did not follow the agreed upon procedures for establishing such a committee;<sup>3</sup> and
- (5) Whereas** a survey of faculty was conducted by the outgoing provost concerning the department chairs in the spring of 2017, and based upon this survey, which was not made available to all faculty, the current provost made an appointment of a department chair without consultation of the faculty in that academic department;<sup>4</sup> and
- (6) Whereas** the ESF President recently announced plans to significantly increase the student population of ESF, reduce ESF based financial assistance to students, and de-emphasize SUNY from the College’s name and no faculty had been consulted, nor were plans in place to consult faculty at the time of the announcement; and
- (7) Whereas** an increase in the student population and a reduction of ESF based financial assistance will directly affect the academic mission of ESF; and
- (8) Whereas** faculty have repeatedly asked to be consulted and engaged early in the discussion concerning the academic mission and no open and transparent process has yet been established; and

**(9) Whereas** lack of consultation is in part contributing to a sense of unease and disgruntlement among the faculty and professional staff;

**(1) Therefore be it resolved** that Academic Governance at ESF requests that the ESF Board of Trustees require the President and the President's Executive Cabinet to establish an open and transparent process with respect to all decisions and plans being considered and developed that affect the academic mission; and

**(2) Be it resolved** that Academic Governance at ESF requests the ESF Board of Trustees consider the President's ongoing inability to effectively consult with faculty on matters concerning the academic mission of the College when considering the ESF President's reappointment; and

**(3) Be it resolved** that Academic Governance asks that the SUNY Chancellor be consulted by the ESF Board of Trustees about shared governance, their role, and suggestions on how to implement an open and transparent process of consultation; and

**(4) Finally be it resolved** that Academic Governance requests that the Executive Chair and University Faculty Senator carry forward this resolution jointly to the ESF Board of Trustees, the University Faculty Senate President, and the SUNY Chancellor within 30 calendar days of its passing, and then follow up with a report on its status to the full Academic Governance body at subsequent Academic Governance meetings.

Approved and adopted the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_.

---

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

---

1. SUNY Policies of the Board of Trustees <http://system.suny.edu/media/suny/content-assets/documents/boardoftrustees/SUNY-BOT-Policies-March2017.docx>

2. ESF Academic Governance Bylaws 2015 – Section II.  
<http://www.esf.edu/acadgov/documents/bylaws/Bylaws2015.pdf>

3. Procedures for Populating Committees other than Standing Committees of Academic Governance, Academic Governance Standing Rules.  
[http://www.esf.edu/acadgov/documents/FinalPopulatingCommittees\\_000.pdf](http://www.esf.edu/acadgov/documents/FinalPopulatingCommittees_000.pdf)

4. Article IX Title C.2 of the Policies of the SUNY Board Trustees – See link above