

UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION # XVI-M17

on budgetary detail

1. Motion presenter: Art Greenberg
2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion: 4/16/2012 and 4/23/2012
3. Rationale: (See the “whereas” sections below.)
4. Motion:

Whereas the preamble to the Faculty Senate Constitution states: “The distinctive responsibility of the faculty is the academic mission of the university. In particular, the joint statement asserts that, *‘The faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process. On these matters the power of review or final decision lodged in the governing board or delegated by it to the president should be exercised adversely only in exceptional circumstances and for reasons communicated to the faculty.’*” And whereas the Faculty Senate Constitution “provides for the faculty to exercise this responsibility through an elected Faculty Senate,” and whereas the “Faculty Senate is designed to work in close communication and collaboration with the Board of Trustees, principal administrators and the Council of Deans, the PAT and Operating Staff Councils, and the Student Senate, each of which have their own distinctive responsibilities as well as overlapping areas of concern,” and whereas decisions about initiatives that impact academics at UNH often involve reallocation of scarce budgetary resources, and whereas timely action is expected of the senate, therefore, in order to be able responsibly to discharge its oversight of the academic mission, the Faculty Senate calls upon the administration to provide timely and complete budgetary proposals for new academic initiatives and opportunities (e.g., Inclusive Excellence, Internationalization) that will impact current academic practices, including but not necessarily limited to: (1) data that establish the need for the initiative, in terms of problems or issues the initiative purportedly addresses; (2) specification of the sources of funding from which resources for the initiative will be allocated or reallocated; (3) identifiable and measurable benchmarks that indicate progress in advancing the initiative over a five year period; and (4) plans for three or five year periodic review of the initiative’s costs and benefits. The Faculty Senate further calls upon the administration also to include in revenue generating initiatives and opportunities (e.g., e-learning graduate programs or professional certificate programs): (1) details about the starting budget for the initiative, (2) evidence for the initiative’s feasibility in generating new revenues, (3) evidence-based projections over three- and five-year increments of anticipated revenues from the initiative, as well as anticipated corollary expenses needed for pursuit of the initiative, (4) plans for three-year periodic review of the initiative’s success in generating anticipated revenues, (5) contingency plans to maintain, scale back, or eliminate the initiative should revenues generated fail to meet expectations, and (6) identification of alternative revenue sources should the initiative be maintained without reaching the anticipated levels of revenue generation.

5. Senate action: passed with thirty-four ayes and one abstention.

6. Senate chair's signature: J. J. Powell

Forwarded to: President Mark Huddleston, on 5-1-2012

Forwarded to: Provost John Aber, on 5-1-2012

Forwarded to: Lisa MacFarlane, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, on 5-1-2012