

Passed as amended  
4/6/04

Authors - Sponsors - Footnotes - Comments

AR: 26

Title: Calling for the Creation of an Interdisciplinary College at the University of Texas

Stage: FAST TRACK - 04/04/2004

Owner: Paul Navratil

- [1] **Whereas** All students at the University must be enrolled in a specific college
- [2] **Whereas** advising for students is college specific, such that an advisor may not be able to discuss opportunities that are outside a college or that span several colleges
- [3] **Whereas** some interdisciplinary programs[1] are housed in a specific college that may not reflect the complete scope of the program
- [4] **Whereas** housing an interdisciplinary program in a specific college exposes the interdisciplinary student to degree requirements separate from their main academic focus
- [5] **Whereas** requiring students to take major-sequence classes outside of their main academic focus delays their graduation and takes away seats from other students who need those classes
- [6] **Whereas** the Bridging Disciplines Program themes[2] demonstrate a trend toward interdisciplinary study at the undergraduate level
- [7] **Whereas** college-wide interdisciplinary study majors exist at Harvard, Stanford, Yale, Berkeley, UCLA, USC, Northwestern, Illinois, Duke, Virginia, and other institutions[3]
- [8] **Whereas** the University is currently undergoing a comprehensive review of its structure and curriculum as part of the Commission of 125 initiative
- [9] **Be It Resolved** the Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin supports the creation of a university-wide, degree-granting program for undergraduate interdisciplinary study at the University
- [10] **Be It Further Resolved** the Student Government requests that significant resources for student advising be allocated to such a program
- [11] **Be It Further Resolved** the Student Government requests that this issue be considered as part of the campus-wide review of curriculum currently underway and that student input continue to be solicited
- [12] **Be It Further Resolved** the Student Government requests that information regarding student and faculty interests be collected and considered by administrators and student representatives before such a program is created *and that student input continue to be solicited*

#### Footnotes

- [1] e.g. Public Relations (communications/business), Engineering Route to Business (engineering/business), Teacher Certification (various), Fine Arts Simultaneous Majors (various), Game Design (communications/natural science), Environmental Science Institute (geology/various), pre-Law programs (various), and pre-Med (various)
- [2] Children and Society, Environment, Ethics and Leadership, Population and Public Policy, Public Cultures, and Technology and Society

[3] see [http://www.utexas.edu/studentgov/student\\_web/files/?files\\_id=28](http://www.utexas.edu/studentgov/student_web/files/?files_id=28)

**Comments**

None

**Authors**

Paul Navratil (Graduate)

**Sponsors**

Elizabeth Brummett (Liberal Arts)

Brent Chaney (Two Year At-Large)

Hope Garcia (Liberal Arts)

Paul Navratil (Graduate)

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