

**A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING IMPROVED TIMING OF THE BUDGET
CYCLE TO PERMIT BETTER CONSULTATION WITH FACULTY (04/7)**

WHEREAS, the administration has advised the Fiscal Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Faculty Senate that it is adopting a budgeting strategy of requiring many divisions of the University, including most of the schools, to annually reduce their expense budgets, these funds to be sequestered and some portion returned and targeted towards the strategic priorities of the University and schools*; and

WHEREAS, in the colleges and schools, such reductions, repeated now for several years, start to require deans to begin to dismantle and/or restructure academic programs, often discontinuing part-time faculty and transferring full-time faculty to achieve the required “savings;” and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Code, Section IX.A, entitles faculty to “an active role ...including an opportunity to make recommendations” when such academic-program eliminations and restructuring are being considered, but the amount of time allowed in the budget cycle for deans to identify and report to the budget office the cut they will make is insufficient to allow enough time for significant consultation with the faculty of the schools involved; **NOW, THEREFORE**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY:**

1) That the budget cycle of the University, that is, the timing of the informing of deans of budgetary targets and the fixing of dates by which recommendations are due to the budget office, should be modified to permit deans the time and opportunity to confer with faculty in advance of arriving at their recommended budget cuts, and to encourage Deans to confer with faculty, and to allow faculty their Code-guaranteed right to participate in these budget-driven restructurings, in light of the importance of the academic consequences of this budget strategy; and

2) That, in addition to the above short-run strategy, the Administration should commit itself to more long-range budget planning, especially academic planning in conjunction with the deans and faculties of the colleges and schools, as we attempt to reach our strategic goals in the next decade.

* (In FY04 1.1% of school budget expense reductions was matched with a 1.1% budget expense reduction from Administrative units and the total reallocated to Academic Affairs. In FY05 1.62% of school budget expenses was reallocated across the entire University budget.)

Fiscal Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Faculty Senate
Approved: Dec. 18, 2004

Adopted January 21, 2005