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UNH FACULTY SENATE MOTION # XVI-M14 on internationalization

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UNH FACULTY SENATE
MOTION # XVI-M14

on internationalization

1. Motion presenter: Ed Hinson
2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion: 4/2/2012 and 4/16/2012
3. Rationale:

The first distribution of Navitas royalties is divided according to a formula that allocates approximately one-third to academic departments offering Navitas courses and two-thirds to the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The departments are free to decide how best to make use of their Navitas funds. (For instance, the Department of Mathematics received approximately \$14,000 that it could allocate to any number of activities, including travel fund supplements, classroom renovation and equipment, supplemental pay for a department Navitas coordinator, and student scholarships.) The Vice President for Academic Affairs will use its funds to meet operational costs associated with the Navitas program, as well as to pursue objectives to further develop the internationalization initiative, including a national search for a senior administrative position charged with overseeing and centralizing internationalization activities at UNH. Given that UNH finds itself continuously grappling with unstable financial circumstances, the Faculty Senate finds it imprudent to lock in any revenue stream for pursuing this strategic objective without periodic review of how royalties are distributed. For instance, should the principal units charged with implementing the institution's core academic mission – the academic departments and the colleges that house them – come under serious budgetary duress, opportunities for diverting revenues where they are most needed should remain open. In sum, the second part of the motion calls for flexibility over time in the distribution of royalties enjoyed from the Navitas Program that, presumably, will grow over time.

4. Motion:

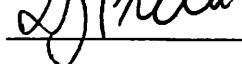
The following motion is the senate's response to the Report of the President's Panel on Internationalizing UNH.

- 1. The Faculty Senate endorses the principle of the internationalization of UNH and commends the President's Panel for its thorough report.**
- 2. The Faculty Senate calls for periodic three-year assessments of the Navitas Program's royalty collection and distribution, starting during its third year of implementation (2014-2015).**

3. The Faculty Senate perceives a potential danger in implementing the recommendation to make "cluster hires" and "joint appointments" of as many as twelve new "interdisciplinary" faculty hires during the last three years of the report's five year plan. At current and projected rates of hiring new faculty, these hires would constitute a substantial portion of all available opportunities to hire during those years. The deans and the provost will have to exercise a great deal of wisdom and sensitivity to the evolving conditions in the colleges, to ensure that devoting this many hires to internationalization does not simultaneously weaken other mission-critical needs in the university. On-going and effective consultation with academic departments will be crucial to proper implementation of this recommendation.

4. The Faculty Senate calls upon the interim internationalization facilitator and, possibly, a future internationalization administrative director to provide in the periodic three-year report to the Faculty Senate (1) data that show the current state of internationalization at UNH, including but not limited to the percentage of students participating in study abroad programs, numbers of Navitas students, and total revenues from Navitas and their distribution; (2) assessment of the level of internationalization those data show at UNH; (3) resources needed to maintain that level of internationalization, or (4) measurable benchmarks and the resources needed to bring internationalization to a higher level, and (5) the extent to which the benchmarks targeted and the methods used in the university's efforts toward internationalization are pursued in accordance with the principle of shared governance.

5. Senate action: passed with all ayes except for two nays and two abstentions.

6. Senate chair's signature: 

Forwarded to: President Mark Huddleston, on 4/24/2012

Forwarded to: Provost John Aber, on 4/24/2012

Forwarded to: Lisa MacFarlane, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, on 4/24/2012