

University Senate Resolution on Process and Timing for Academic Program Reviews
November 9, 2004

WHEREAS Interim President Ed Richardson has identified academic program reviews as one of his six priorities; and

WHEREAS Provost Tom Hanley is in the process of developing a three pronged approach to study capacity, productivity, and quality; and

WHEREAS the measures used to establish capacity (MTR) have generated preliminary data which have not been made available for review by the university faculty, nor have they been validated or refined to reflect important variability between academic programs; and

WHEREAS President Richardson used preliminary MTR data to publicly state that a certain college had twice the number of faculty needed; and

WHEREAS the Provost plans to present to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees information on these new evaluation measures and preliminary data derived from the MTR assessment measures on November 11th,

THEREFORE, the University Senate wishes to commend Provost Hanley for his efforts in implementing new evaluation procedures, and ask him to work closely with the Academic Program Review Committee of the Senate in further developing such procedures, and

THEREFORE, the University Senate wishes to express concern that preliminary MTR data may not accurately reflect capacity and should not be used in isolation or before further refinements are made to draw inferences or make decisions about programs and resources. Further, all members of the University community are cautioned in the use or presentation of these preliminary raw data to communicate to the public, the capacity of academic units at Auburn University, and

THEREFORE, the University Senate requests that Provost Hanley not present preliminary MTR data to the Board of Trustees prior to review by the Academic Program Review Committee.

