

Resolution Prospective Part-time Bachelor's Degree for Non-Traditional Students

Sponsor: University Faculty Committee

Background:

- [Part-Time Bachelor's Degree for Non-Traditional Students Proposal](#), 10/28/2021
- [Proposal presentation](#) at the Faculty Senate 12/08/2021
- Three relevant Standing Senate Committees studied and reported on the Proposal.
 - [Committee on Academic Programs and Policies Report](#), 12/07/2021
 - [Education Policy Committee Report](#), 02/01/2022
 - [Academic Freedom and Professional Status of Faculty Report](#), 02/09/2022
- [American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program Memo](#), 03/30/2022
- A [Faculty Forum](#) was organized for an open discussion (audio, chat, audio transcription available) 03/30/2022
- [Provost's Response](#) (and [clarification](#)) to Senate Committee reports and discussions, 03/09/2022 and 03/21/22 respectively

Resolution

Whereas the prospective creation of a Part-Time Bachelor's Degree program is consistent with Cornell's legacy of, and historical commitment to, increasing access to higher education on behalf of "any person;"

Whereas there are populations of prospective students that are underserved by institutions of higher education who might benefit from increased access,

Whereas three relevant Standing Committees of the Senate, CAPP, EPC and AFPSF, studied the proposal, and made recommendations for issues to be taken up for further consideration by the university administration,

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate **approves**, in principle, the concept of Cornell creating a part-time Bachelor's degree program,

Be it further resolved that this **approval** is subject to satisfying a number of as yet unresolved implementation questions. These include maintenance of academic excellence and quality, the financial feasibility of the program, the appropriate mix of online and in-person instruction, faculty roles and labor, and addressing specific needs of prospective underrepresented groups noted in the proposal, among other matters;

Be it further resolved that the university administration and the Provost involve Cornell Faculty in all stages of program planning and provide regular updates to the Faculty Senate on the resolution of critical unresolved questions;

Be it further resolved that at the conclusion of the program planning process, the Provost seek the **approval** of the Faculty Senate before commencement of the part-time Bachelor's degree program.