

## **Resolution #1, First Year Seminar**

### **University of Delaware Faculty Senate Resolution on the First Year Seminar**

WHEREAS, the faculty of the University of Delaware have affirmed the importance of a robust program of general education through their unanimous support of the November 3, 2014 “Resolution on General Education,” and

WHEREAS, the Task Force on General Education has reaffirmed the First Year Seminar as an important experience for students, and

WHEREAS, the Report to the Faculty, Administration, Trustees, and Students of the University of Delaware by An Evaluation Team representing the Middle States Commission on Higher Education prepared after an on-campus review on April 3-6, 2011, recommended that “...the university work to make the FYE a more integrated experience and expand a more uniform model across the university,” and

WHEREAS, a Periodic Review Report is due from the University of Delaware to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in June 2016, be it

RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate directs the President of the Faculty Senate to proceed forthwith in appointing an “Ad Hoc Committee on the First Year Seminar,” subject to the charge and guidelines laid out in the attached document.

#### **Attached Document for Resolution on the First Year Seminar**

##### **Charge of the Ad Hoc Committee on the First Year Seminar**

The Ad Hoc Committee on the First Year Seminar is formed to establish clear, detailed guidelines, which must be followed by any course designated as a “First Year Seminar,” effective September 1, 2016. The Ad Hoc Committee on the First Year Seminar is appointed by the President of the Faculty Senate, will consist of a minimum of one faculty representative from each college, one representative from the Office of the Provost, a minimum of one undergraduate student and four representatives from the Division of Student Life, and is to be charged by the President of the Faculty Senate with all due haste upon adoption of this resolution. The committee is further charged to:

- (1) Define a clear set of guidelines detailing all required components to be satisfied by any course designated as a “First Year Seminar.”
- (2) Diversity competency, sexual misconduct awareness and prevention, drug and alcohol use education and abuse prevention, responsible use of the internet and other

social media, and ethics and academic honesty should be components within all First Year Seminars.

- (3) Make a recommendation to the Faculty Senate by September 1, 2016 as to a periodic review process designed to ensure that all “FYS” designated courses meet established guidelines.
- (4) Partner with the Office of Educational Assessment of the Center for Teaching and Assessment of Learning to develop an assessment plan for all FYS courses and a process for regular course assessment.

The committee will be dissolved by a vote of the Faculty Senate.