



UNIVERSITY SENATE RESOLUTION
Traditional Academic Structure

2023-02

WHEREAS, Faculty are integral to achieving Kean University's mission to prepare students to think critically, creatively and globally; to adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments; and to serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and

WHEREAS, we, the University Senate, applaud President Lamont Repollet's willingness, soon after his arrival, to evaluate the current structure of academic units and possibly return to the leadership structure prominent in most research universities; and

WHEREAS, the initial Task Force on Departments and Chair convened by Dr. David S. Birdsell, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, in 2021 created a blueprint for the university's return to the traditional academic department structure; and

WHEREAS, the subsequent Departments and Chairs Implementation (DCI) Task Force has worked diligently to develop an implementation plan for Fall 2023; and

WHEREAS, Departments and Chairs Implementation (DCI) Task Force is requesting formal support from the University Senate for transitioning from Executive Directors and Schools to Departments and elected Chairs from the University; and

WHEREAS, the University Senate reviewed the DCI recommendations for reorganizing the university into a traditional academic structure based on shared governance principles that embody formative evaluation and pursuit of excellence in what we do; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the University Senate thanks the Departments and Chairs Implementation (DCI) Task Force for crafting this report; and

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the University Senate, enthusiastically support restructuring to reflect traditional academic departments and governance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University Senate looks forward to shortly receiving the detailed restructuring plan, including logistical details, for consideration, discussion, input, and approval.

On behalf of the University Senate,

Sucheta Ahlawat

Yes 27 No 0 Abstain 0

Sucheta Ahlawat – Chair, University Senate