Consultation on the proposed UH System reorganization

Whereas it is the policy of the University to maintain and strengthen organized and systematic involvement by faculty in decision making, especially when such decision making has potential academic consequences, and

Whereas reorganization plans both at the System level and at the Manoa campus level often have important consequences for matters of vital concern to the faculty, for academic programs and for budget policy in particular, and

Whereas, as a matter of courtesy and as support for consultative governance, the University administration should, as a matter of course, keep the Senate informed of significant administrative proposals,

Whereas in the past, the Senate has been informed of administrative reorganizations and has been asked to review them, and

Whereas the Senate must be presented with such proposals for reorganization in sufficient time to give these plans due consideration, in order to determine the possible academic impact of proposed administrative reorganizations, and

Whereas the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, in its accreditation reviews, has found and will find fault with the University if there is inadequate consultation with the faculty, and

Whereas the System administration announced its intention to present a major system-level reorganization plan to the Board of Regents at its meeting of November 14, 2002 and November 21, 2002, and

Whereas this reorganization proposal appears, on the face of it, to have possible consequences for the direction, coordination, development and management of academic programs, and consequences for budget policy and planning, and

Whereas UH Administration presented this plan neither to the Manoa Faculty Senate nor to its relevant subcommittees, nor, to our knowledge, to any Faculty Senate of the University, and

Whereas, the above concerns prompted the Administration to meet with the Senate Executive Committee and with the Committee on Administration and the Budget to discuss resolution of these issues, and

Whereas, the President and the Vice President for Academic Affairs have expressed regret for the lack of consultation and have committed themselves to future actions to address the Senate's concerns, both with respect to the present System reorganization process and with respect to future System-level administrative actions:

Therefore be it resolved that:

The Manoa Faculty Senate expects that University faculty senates will be consulted, with sufficient time for meaningful review, in the process of defining the specific roles and functions
and operational plans for the System-level offices and ascertaining the potential impact on academic programs and budgetary policy;

The Manoa Faculty Senate expects that the faculty will be involved as partners with the System administration in the process of setting up permanent consultative processes with respect to System-level administration. In particular, the Senate requests that the President or his designee meet regularly with the representatives of the Manoa Senate Executive Committee and of the Committee on Administration and the Budget in order to develop such consultative processes.