

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Merger Options and Administrative Disparities

Whereas the possibility of a merger of Rutgers, in whole or in part, with all or part of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey is currently under discussion in Trenton and has direct bearing on the conduct of graduate programs and allied research, especially in science and engineering fields; and

Whereas any such merger will force immediate attention to the many administrative disparities that would have to be resolved with regard to research and graduate education; and

Whereas the health of many of our doctoral programs and those of UMDNJ's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences might be greatly enhanced by more permanent and rational solutions to these problems,

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that the Graduate School Executive Council urges that steps be taken to begin now to explore the best ways to align and consolidate those aspects of the two schools that relate most closely to the conduct of our joint programs and to the research enterprise in which the faculty and students of those programs are engaged.

In particular, we recommend that a joint mandate be sought from the academic vice presidents of the two institutions for their respective academic officers and graduate school deans to begin planning for consolidation of offices, such as the graduate school offices, research offices and IRBs. Should this not be possible universities-wide, we would urge that a beginning be made in New Brunswick-Piscataway

We further recommend that such a mandate call for a unification of rules, deadlines, fees, services, insurance coverage, and other elements of doctoral program support and governance. For this purpose we ask that one or more committees be formed with the aforesaid mandates.

The Executive Council endorses this resolution in full confidence that achieving its goals will be of great value to the quality of education and research at the two institutions and thus of great value to the State of New Jersey, its citizens, and its economy.