

MEMORANDUM

To: Binghamton University Faculty Senate, c/o Faculty Senate Executive Committee Chair

From: Kanneboyina Nagaraju, DVM, PhD, Dean of SOPPS

Date: August 11, 2022

Re: Plan to eliminate SOPPS academic subunit, the Department of Health Outcomes and Administrative Sciences (HOAS)

Per Faculty Senate Bylaw Title B, Establishment and Elimination of Academic Units and Sub-units:

Except as mandated by the SUNY Board of Trustees, the establishment of a new academic unit or sub-unit at the State University of New York at Binghamton or *the elimination of an academic unit or sub-unit shall require review by the Faculty Senate*. Upon completion of its review, the Faculty Senate shall transmit its recommendation to the President (Binghamton University Faculty Senate, 2021, p. 16, emphasis added).

As Dean of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Chair of the Department of Health Outcomes and Administrative Sciences, in consultation with the Pharmacy Leadership Team and sub-unit faculty, **I request that the Faculty Senate review and approve the dissolution of the Department of Health Outcomes and Administrative Sciences (HOAS) and recommend to President Stenger that this sub-unit be eliminated.**

The rationale for elimination of this sub-unit is as follows:

- There are only two tenured faculty in the HOAS department. I, while Chair of the HOAS department, have my primary faculty appointment in a different sub-unit.
- HOAS faculty do not have the benefit of departmental opportunities and support provided by a larger sub-unit.
- HOAS faculty training and areas of interest are complimentary to other existing sub-units in the unit (Department of Pharmacy Practice and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences). HOAS faculty are empowered to choose their new sub-unit (Pharmacy Practice or Pharmaceutical Sciences) and will be welcomed as full members of their new department(s) with all of the rights and responsibilities therein.
- Faculty teaching in the PharmD curriculum is highly integrated with many courses being co-taught by faculty from different disciplines and across sub-units. This will not change under the new organizational structure.
- With only two faculty members, it is not reasonable to use SOPPS traditions of sub-unit voting on matters of departmental interest.
- Maintaining a separate administrative structure for a department with two faculty is an inefficient use of resources.

- Many schools and colleges of pharmacy in the USA do not have a separate unit for faculty in administrative sciences and health outcomes. Therefore, SOPPS will remain in alignment with pharmacy school norms with dissolution of the HOAS department.

Plan to implement the elimination of HOAS

Following approval of the Faculty Senate and the President:

- The two faculty in the HOAS department will be administratively transferred from HOAS to one of the remaining sub-units in SOPPS and will receive faculty and staff support from the selected sub-unit. Expectations for teaching, scholarship, and service remain unchanged.
- The staff member, the Administrative Coordinator for Academic Affairs and Assessment, who also provided support to HOAS faculty members, will continue to support Academic Affairs and Assessment and will now also assist the Interim Associate Dean for Education and Engagement.
- *No faculty or staff lines will be eliminated in this organizational redesign.

Statements from the two existing HOAS faculty members are provided in Appendix I.

I am available to meet or otherwise correspond with the Faculty Senate and its committees at your request. I will seek to address any comments, questions, or concerns that arise with respect to this request to eliminate the Department of Health Outcomes and Administrative Sciences.

Signatory



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References

Binghamton University Faculty Senate. (2021). 2021 Faculty Bylaws. Faculty Bylaws current as of September 2021. Retrieved on July 18, 2022, from <https://www.binghamton.edu/faculty-senate/faculty-bylaws.html>