

RESOLUTION

Whereas the June 30, 1976 Memorandum to Presidents titled *Credit/Contact Hour Relationship* (Vol. 76, No. 8) and SUNY Academic Affairs policy *Document 1305* regarding the credit/contact hour relationship is more than 30 years old, and

Whereas, in that time there have been significant advancements in higher education related to various formats of study and evaluation of study including:

- Experience-based learning
- Distance Learning
- Online instruction
- Learning outcomes and assessment of learning, and

Whereas the 1976 Memorandum to Presidents and the Academic Affairs policy *Document 1305* do not provide a policy for awarding credits to students for completing courses that do not require contact hours.

Whereas the 1976 Memorandum to Presidents and the Academic Affairs policy *Document 1305* do not speak to distance learning, online instruction or to meeting learning outcomes, and

Whereas the 1976 Memorandum to Presidents and the Academic Affairs policy *Document 1305* do not cite New York State Department of Education (NYSED) regulations, relevant parts of which have been heavily amended since 1976, and

Whereas the 1976 Memorandum to Presidents and the Academic Affairs policy *Document 1305* language as relates to the semester hour **as redefined in paragraph four of the 1976 memorandum and subsequent SUNY policy** does not conform to the NYSED *Title 8 Chapter II Regulations Of The Commissioner* , and is therefore incomplete

- *Title 8, Ch. II §50.1 (n) and (o)*
- *Title 8, Chapter II, Title 8, Ch. II §52.2 (c) (4,5)*
- *Title 8, Chapter II, Title 8, Ch. II §52.2(b) (3), and*

Whereas, faculty, administrators, and program planners are concerned, in light of new pedagogical strategies like distance learning and online instruction, that they are meeting the goals and standards intended within the curricula in their various schools and departments as relates to the credit/contact hour and its implementation in these changing times, and

Whereas, faculty, administrators, and program planners require clear and consistent guidance for determining how credit is to be awarded and for calculating time on task, therefore

Be it resolved that the 1976 Memorandum to Presidents and the Academic Affairs policy *Document 1305* be reviewed and revised or replaced as needed to align SUNY semester credit policy with the current NYSED regulations of the Commissioner, and

Be it further resolved that there be an appropriate explication of law and policy that will be more accessible and transparent to faculty, administrators, and program planners, and

Be it further resolved that any change in policy offer guidelines for application of NYSED Regulations Title 8, Chapter II, Pt. 50.1 (n,o) to variations in current and new instructional situations without needless restriction from what the NYSED rules would otherwise allow, and

Be it further resolved that any change in policy recognize NYSED Regulations *Title 8, Chapter II, Pt. 52.2 (c)(3/4?,5)* that call for accomplishment of college-level learning objectives or outcomes as a necessary part of earning semester credit, and

Be it further resolved that any change in policy recognize the NYSED Regulations *Title 8, Chapter II, Pt. 52.2 (b)(3)* that invest control of curriculum and measurement of achievement in the faculty and academic officers of the institutions.

Be it further resolved that the review itself be conducted in consultation with faculty