RESOLUTION RE FACULTY INPUT
ON ACADEMIC CONSTRUCTION
AND ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION

Acknowledging that the Statement of Government of Colleges and Universities (supported by the Association of Governing Boards, the American Council on Education, and the Association of University Professors) asserts that the “faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction… and those aspects of student life which relate to the academic process”,

Observing that proposed reallocations of space related to Tidwell Bible Building and the segregation of faculty offices from the pedagogical and teaching spaces for the students is a significant departure from Baylor’s historic practices,

Aware that the design, organization, layout, allotment, and structure of teaching spaces has profound implications for teaching, mentoring, and the instructional process,

Noting that historically academic departments and majors have been the primary organizational structure of the modern university and that Baylor does not appear to be abandoning that that principle, and noting that students within majors and specialties form learning communities around these departments,

Observing that there appears to have been little consultation with the faculty about the profound implications these the new space allocations and innovations have for Baylor’s historic practices and mission,

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate reach out to the administration to insure that there is a process whereby there is significant and substantial consultation with the affected faculty about:

The design, layout, equipping, and organization of teaching spaces and office spaces, and

The location, allotment, and organization of teaching spaces vis-à-vis office spaces, and

The implications of creating academic office buildings segregated from teaching spaces and the significant implications this has for mentoring, teaching, and the creation of academic communities.

Passed by the Baylor Faculty Senate November 12, 2019