



MEMORANDUM

To: Donna E. Shalala, President

From: Stephen Sapp
Chair, Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Sapp". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Date: February 5, 2008

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2007-33(B) – Political Science Department transfer to the College of Arts and Sciences

On January 30, 2008 the Faculty Senate approved the transfer of the Political Science Department to the College of Arts and Sciences. This change becomes effective upon your approval.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

SS/ef

cc: Thomas LeBlanc, Executive Vice President and Provost
David J. Birnbach, Vice Provost for University Administration and Faculty Affairs

Faculty Senate Legislation #2007-33(B) – Political Science Department transfer to the College of Arts and Sciences

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE

APPROVED:  DATE: 2/6/08
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: Dean Michael Halkian

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: immediately
(if other than June 1 next following)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____



Office of the Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

TO: Stephen Sapp
Chair, Faculty Senate

FROM: Michael R. Halloran
Dean *Michael R. Halloran*

SUBJECT: Political Science Department Transfer to the College of Arts and Sciences

DATE: November 28, 2007

At the meeting of the College of Arts and Sciences faculty of November 27, 2007, the faculty voted in favor of the following:

The faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences approves the transfer of the Department of Political Science from the School of Business Administration to the College of Arts and Sciences.

The vote was unanimous, even enthusiastic. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know

cc: Thomas LeBlanc, Provost
Barbara Kahn, Dean of the Business School
Fred Frohock, Chair of the Department of Political Science

MEMO TO SCHOOL OF BUSINESS COUNCIL

September 17, 2007

To: SBA School Council

Colleagues:

The proper venue for the Political Science Department on the University of Miami campus has been discussed and debated for years. Should we remain in the School of Business, or move to the College of Arts and Science? The Department has explicitly addressed the issues attending this question in formal and informal conversations since I became chair (in January 2005). The concerns are both intellectual and administrative. On the intellectual side it seems clear that the proper location of any department is in a college with cohort academic units, and with faculty who share roughly the same intellectual orientations to teaching and research. No college is ever homogeneous, and an academic setting that extends across the arts and the natural sciences presents a robust intellectual diversity. The fit in A&S, in short, would not be seamless. And, yes, conceded -- the UM Business School obviously has its own excellent and diverse faculty with an unassailable reputation for integrity. But, at the end of the day, we have concluded that the natural affinities of Political Science are with the intellectual contexts provided by the College of Arts and Sciences. Political inquiry, in any of its incarnations, is closer to sociology, philosophy, history, etc., than to finance, management, accounting, etc. On the administrative side the talking points have been on the differential expectations of financial support, the competing prospects of academic development, and, inevitably, the comparative provisions of day-to-day amenities. Few of these items lend themselves to certainty. But we can examine them and make deliberative judgments on our futures. The Department has discussed all of these matters at length with the relevant administrative figures, and among ourselves, and decided (though not unanimously) that on balance it is in our best interests along both lines of concerns to move to the College of Arts and Sciences.

I might add, from my own point of view, that it is easy to miss what is important here. The decisive considerations determining the proper location of an academic unit in a university cannot be simple creature comforts or even the more complex advantages of external resources (in part because many of the items in these two categories are easily duplicated). The driving argument at a university must be intellectual. In this case, what is the best location for the academic growth of the UM Political Science Department? The answer that the Department has provided for this question, at this time in the history of the University, is -- the College of Arts and Sciences. On March 19th, 2007, the Department voted 6-4, with one abstention, to move to A&S. I did not vote, preferring to allow my report and recommendation to count as a non-cardinal expression of preference. Nor did I include in the total the proxy vote -- to move from SBA to A&S -- from an assistant professor who had left us for UC Riverside, even though he was eligible to vote on at least one reading of the faculty manual since he had been given a year of leave by the SBA Dean. The 6-4 vote expresses an uncomplicated and legitimate preference of the tenured and tenure-track POL faculty at that time.

We now ask, at this time and having made proper deliberations on the issues, that the SBA School Council authorize the move of Political Science from SBA to A&S. Finally, it should be noted that the UM President, the Provost, and the Deans of both the Business School and the College of Arts and Sciences underwrite the move. They all believe that Political Science should be in Arts and Sciences. That is my conviction also.

Fred Frohock

Chair, Department of Political Science

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS COUNCIL VOTE

Subject: Political Science Move: School council vote
From: Kahn, Barbara E. [mailto:bkahn@exchange.sba.miami.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2007 11:26 AM

Dear Fred, Tom and Michael:

The School council at the School of Business Administration (SBA) voted today to support the move of the political science department from SBA to the School of Arts & Sciences. The vote was 8 in favor, 1 abstained (the delegate from the Political Science department abstained). This follows the 6-4 department vote to move.

I believe the next steps are to take a vote at the School of Arts and Sciences and then to bring the matter to the Faculty Senate.

Thanks. bk



SCHOOL OF BUSINESS FACULTY VOTE

From: Kahn, Barbara E. [mailto:bkahn@exchange.sba.miami.edu]
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2007 1:09 PM
Subject: Political Science Vote
Dear Michael, Tom and Fred:

We took an electronic ballot vote from our faculty as to whether or not they were in favor of the move of political science to Arts & Science. The deadline for the voting process was Wed, Sept. 26 at 5pm

The official results are:
80 faculty voted in favor of the move
8 faculty were against the move
7 faculty did not send in their vote by the deadline

Since we need 2/3's approval vote, we clearly have the approval of our faculty in support of the move of political science to Arts & Science.

Michael, I believe it is now time for you to go through the processes necessary at the school of Arts & Science. Thank you.

Please let me know if there is anything else I need to do to help with this transition.

Barbara E. Kahn
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