

UNH FACULTY SENATE  
MOTION # XIV-M7

on work to rule and shared governance

1. Motion presenter: Marco Dorfsman
2. Date of Faculty Senate discussion: 2/1/2010
3. Rationale:

The Faculty Senate is the legislative body that reviews policy concerned with the academic mission of the university. Shared governance and oversight over the decision-making process of the university are central responsibilities of the Faculty Senate. Our history at UNH has shown us that, under conditions of impasse, effective shared governance has not been attainable and relations between faculty and administration have been severely strained. It would be impracticable to continue business as usual under conditions of work to rule; at the same time, ceasing to operate as a Faculty Senate would not attend to our responsibility to shared governance. There is a precedent for this motion in a series of motions passed by the 2006-2007 Faculty Senate (#s XI-M1-4), which pursued a similar course of action. This motion attempts to safeguard shared governance by recommending judgments of specific initiatives and charges while recognizing that conditions do not exist in which major new initiatives can flourish. It also suggests maintaining open lines of communication and dialogue with the administration.

4. Motion:

The Faculty Senate will make no major decisions and will not take action on new Administration initiatives during the period of work to rule. The Faculty Senate will act on existing Administration initiatives at its own discretion. The Faculty Senate expects the Administration to take no actions and make no decisions within the spheres of faculty responsibility and authority (as delineated in the 2009 document "Shared Governance at the University of New Hampshire," Motion # XIII-M15) during this period of work to rule.

5. Senate action: passed with thirty ayes, six nays, and four abstentions.

6. Senate chair's signature: 

Forwarded to: President Mark Huddleston, on Feb. 17, 2010

Forwarded to: Provost John Aber, on Feb. 17, 2010