

UNH FACULTY SENATE

MOTION # XX-M28

*on Discovery Review Committee recommendations to advocate for Discovery program*

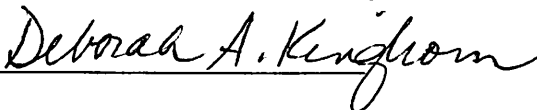
1. Motion presenter: Scott Smith, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee
2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion: 4/25/2016, 5/2/2016
3. **Rationale:** The Academic Affairs Committee moves that the following measure be adopted regarding the Discovery Program, based on the recommendations made by the Discovery Review Committee Report (henceforth "DRCR").

Surveys of students suggested that few of them understood why the Discovery Program existed. Many believed that it was a way to extract more money from them; if they only had to complete their major course of study, they reason, they could graduate earlier. Most refer to Discovery courses as "something to check off" rather than as an integral part of their education. As an institution, we do not do a particularly good job at advertising and advocating for the Discovery Program. Although it is impossible to tell, if the university as a whole promoted the program, perhaps some student dissatisfaction with the program would evaporate. Thus, it seems wise to make a concerted effort to stress the centrality of this part of UNH's curriculum, hence the proposals contained within the motion.

(See DRCR "additional comments," p. 13; see further Student Senate Resolution XXXVII-32, Feb. 28, 2015; category descriptions may be found at <http://www.unh.edu/discovery/discovery-categories>)

4. **Motion:** The Academic Affairs Committee calls upon the administration, faculty advisers, and university staff to advocate positively for the Discovery Program and that they advise students of the rationale behind the program; and, furthermore, that all syllabi from courses taught within the Discovery Program clearly state what category and/or attribute the course fulfills and describe how the course fits the language of the category.

5. **Senate action:** The motion passed with unanimously with no abstentions.

6. Senate chair's signature: 

Forwarded to the following on May 13, 2016

President Mark Huddleston  
Interim Provost P.T. Vasudevan  
Mary Rhiel, Interim Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs  
Barbara White, chair of Discovery Committee  
David Richman, chair of Discovery Review Committee  
All college deans  
All department chairs