Response to Faculty Governance and Consultation Resolution
Provost Kent Fuchs
Feb. 16, 2011

I am writing in response to the Faculty Senate resolution entitled "Resolution on Protocols to Ensure Faculty Governance," which was passed by the Senate at its February 9, 2011 meeting.

President Skorton and I strongly support the resolution's goal of improving shared governance and creating a collective understanding of the proper nature and functioning of faculty consultation, although we do not agree with some of the resolution's assertions. In order to achieve our shared goal, Senior Vice Provost John Siliciano and I met earlier this month with the University Faculty Committee to propose a joint UFC/Provost's Office study of the complex set of issues relating to faculty consultation on academic issues. The UFC has agreed to this proposal.

Senior Vice Provost Siliciano is currently working with Dean Fry and members of the UFC on a joint document. They will report their progress to the full UFC and to me, with the end goal of reporting the outcome of their efforts to the Faculty Senate, the Academic Deans, and the President. It is my expectation that this joint effort will yield a better and more permanent understanding of this key aspect of academic governance.