

SIUC COMMUNITY MEETING ON RESTRUCTURING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 5:00 - 6:30 PM

PARKINSON BUILDING 124

Chancellor Carlo Montemagno has recently shared a plan to restructure the entire SIU Carbondale Campus, eliminating all departments and creating a wholly new institution made up of colleges, schools, and programs. He has indicated that he will move quickly to implement this plan, which would radically transform the SIUC experience for every student, staff and faculty member on our campus. But this is not the Chancellor's university.

It is our university.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

DEO VOLENTE

CHARTERED 1869

The purpose of this meeting is to bring together all SIUC community members to discuss the implications of this restructuring plan. What will be the role of shared governance as this process unfolds? How does this plan address SIUC's ongoing enrollment and fiscal crises?

How will this plan assure that our campus's longstanding commitment to diversity be advanced and preserved? And most importantly, how will this plan ensure that all of our students graduate from SIUC with a rigorous, high quality education and with a degree that will empower them in the world?

The meeting will address all of these questions and more. Please spread the word far and wide, and see you on October 25.

Statement of Principles for Supporting University Reorganization

Chancellor Montemagno has proposed a complete reorganization of the academic structure of SIUC. Faculty, staff, and students have raised serious questions about his plan including, but not limited to the restriction or maintenance of shared governance, the means whereby this plan will stimulate enrollment or interdisciplinary collaboration, the preservation of graduate assistantships and the development of graduate education, and the practical effects of the elimination of chairs upon internal program functions. The criticism that those with concerns are resistant to change is false: we all recognize that SIUC faces serious issues including, but not limited to enrollment decline, finance, and the retention of faculty, staff, and students. We therefore call for and enthusiastically support change in keeping with the following principles:

- We will support change that furthers our mission as a public research university, providing each student with a quality education without sacrificing our commitment to inclusive excellence, access, and opportunity.
- We will support change that supports and funds graduate teaching and education across disciplines while preserving the opportunity for graduate students to gain valuable experience through funded teaching and research appointments, including those as instructors of record.
- We will support plans that have proven effectiveness in addressing the issues of enrollment and retention affecting all areas of the university.
- We will support change that promotes genuine diversity and inclusion on campus, not simply at the curricular level, but in all aspects of the university.
- We will support change that is the result of robust shared governance, that preserves a strong faculty voice in choices of unit leaders, and that ensures faculty control over the curriculum.
- We will support change that is based on a shared vision for SIU that includes the voices of faculty, staff, and students as full participants in the organization of the university.
- We will support change that cuts administrative costs without sacrificing the representative and administrative function of Department Chairs in advocating for the needs of their programs, their faculty, and their students to central administration.
- We will support change that promotes interdisciplinary collaboration not simply through grouping similar programs together, but through the elimination of institutional barriers and the provision of structured administrative and financial support for such collaboration, including new hires.