

Faculty Senate Resolution 2008-09 – 09
Regarding the Status of the Social Work Accredited Major

Whereas the Social Work (SW) accredited major forms the central core of a highly respected and valued program at CNU, with graduates who model exactly what we want them to be – servant leaders; and

Whereas the principle of servant leadership is an integral part of CNU's unique identity among public liberal arts universities; and

Whereas the SW program is critical to the service learning and civic engagement efforts at CNU, as evidenced by the more than 7000 hours of community service hours contributed primarily by SW majors this semester alone, together with a large number of letters of support from the community; and

Whereas the SW accredited major produces graduates who go on in high percentages to attend the nation's top graduate schools in Social Work; and

Whereas the CNU Center for Service Learning and Social Entrepreneurship has already initiated major new funding opportunities that are inexorably linked to the SW accredited major; and

Whereas the Faculty Senate has serious concern that our University not earn the reputation of an academic institution that eliminates programs or majors during economic downturns, as this has the potential for a multitude of negative ramifications, not the least of which is a negative impact on recruiting efforts at CNU; and

Whereas the highest priority of the CNU Faculty Senate, in this time of economic stress, has been, and continues to be, to retain academic programs and faculty; and

Whereas the Department of Social Work and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology have agreed to reorganization and curricular changes that respond to the University's current economic climate and will result in curriculum efficiencies;

We therefore unanimously resolve, in agreement with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Curriculum Committee, the Luter Curriculum Committee, and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC), that the accredited Social Work major be retained, and that careful consideration be given to the recommendations for efficiency proposed by the CLAS Curriculum Committee.