

Undergraduate Student Government
Stony Brook University
SAC Suite 202, Room 210
(631) 632-6473



Alexander E. Dimitriyadi
Executive Vice President

Kirin Mahmud
President Pro Tempore

SENATE

SENATE RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE PROHIBITION OF LECTURERS DIRECTING THESES

Whereas, the Honors College at Stony Brook University was created to provide students with the personalized, small-class experience of a small liberal arts college, while also offering the resources of a major research institution;

Whereas, the Honors College is responsible for encouraging its students to form intellectually stimulating relationships with faculty members through individualized attention and advising, seminar-style classes and the required completion of senior honors thesis projects under the direct supervision of faculty mentors;

Whereas, the required honors thesis is an opportunity for each Honors College student to complete a project – be it academic, literary, artistic, or creative – of interest to him, through directed independent effort, permitting each to broaden his horizon with a project of his own design; and

Whereas, the nature of the honors thesis invites students to think outside the box and follow their ideas to creative ends and therefore not each and every honors thesis is academically-based, as such this invites non-standard approaches and may require mentors who are not tenure-track faculty;

Resolved, by the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government—

- (1) That the Honors College repeal the arbitrary, immaterial and mundane requirement barring non-tenured/non-tenure-tracked faculty from directing theses, reverting back to the policy of the past few years, as many of these faculty members have the same qualifications as many tenure-track professors and have unique and interesting perspectives that they would love to share with interested students; and
- (2) That lecturers like Bente Videbaek and David Maynard shall be able to direct theses, as they have in the past, as they are fully-qualified, energetic, willing, and would greatly augment the Honors College experience for the students.

Respectfully submitted to and passed by the Stony Brook Undergraduate Student Government Senate on this second day of September, 2010.

Alexander E. Dimitriyadi
Executive Vice President

Date