

## Reorganization Update and Call for Participation

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To: All-faculty <all-faculty@lists.sonoma.edu>

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October 18, 2023

TO: Academic Affairs Faculty

FROM: Karen Moranski, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

RE: Reorganization Update and Call for Participation:

- Feedback on department-school proposals submitted as of October 16
- Reorganization timeline
- Reorganization website

### **Feedback on Department-School Proposals**

We are pleased to send out the [proposed combinations for department-school structures](#) that have been submitted as of October 16, 2023 for commentary and review by individual faculty. Attached is a PDF list of all options submitted for all departments at Sonoma State. The list includes:

- Departments in alphabetical order
- Number of tenure-track faculty
- Major headcount
- Department FTES
- Number of academic programs
- Titles of proposed schools (if provided)
- Departmental partners
- Provost-generated notes

Many departments have voted collectively already, but at last week's chair chat sponsored by the Academic Senate, some faculty indicated that they have not felt free to share their individual opinions about the possible options for their department. They wanted an opportunity to provide their own feedback, and so we are providing this forum. Originally, I said faculty should vote or rank. As we looked at the proposals, however, we determined that voting or ranking was problematic because the options are complex and overlapping. Instead, we are providing a comment form for all faculty, both tenure track and lecturers, to comment on the proposals for their department(s), and individual faculty can use the comment box to provide rankings on the proposals, if that seems appropriate. Lecturers and tenure track faculty who teach across multiple departments should select their home department in the form, but in the comments section, they may provide comments on each of the departments for which they teach.

All comments will be confidential. We are not asking your name, nor will I share the raw comments with anyone. I will summarize aggregated comments for campus constituencies, particularly Deans and Provost Office staff.

To offer your feedback, do the following:

1. Click [here](#) to access the response form in Qualtrics.
2. Identify your current school and your department.
3. See the list of proposals submitted for your department.
4. Use the comment box to indicate which proposal or proposals you would like to see approved (and perhaps which ones you do not support). I will read every comment and take those comments into consideration in making decisions.
5. If you have new proposals or suggestions you may include them in the final text box.

### **2023-2024 Reorganization Timeline**

Nov 3 -Deadline for submission of [final proposals for School and College groupings](#).

-Professional Development for Chairs Topic: Scheduling and Assignment of Work in the Context of Academic Reorganization (Session 1)

Nov 15 -Chairs workshop on school groupings and college names

Dec 7 -New academic structure proposal released to faculty governance for comment process

Jan 18 -Guidelines for Fall 2024 scheduling and budgeting released

-Guidelines for departments to recommend new chairs for Fall 2024 released

-Chair time workload assignments released for comment

Feb (TBD) -Professional Development for Chairs Topic: Scheduling and Assignment of Work in the Context of Academic Reorganization (Session 2)

Mar 14 -Academic Senate comments on new academic structure proposal and chair assigned time due to Provost

Mar 22 -New academic structure finalized

May 24 -Recommendations for new chairs due to deans

Jul 1 -New academic structure begins (although implementation will continue through 2024-25)

### **Reorganization Website**

The [Academic Affairs Reorganization website](#) is now live. The website includes links to the FAQ, archives of related emails and memos, and slide decks from updates. You can also access the [Reorganization Question and Comment form](#) directly through the website.

**Dr. Karen R. Moranski**

*She | Her | Hers*

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Sonoma State University