

Resolution on Budgeting Priorities at Eastern Kentucky University

1. Whereas, Eastern Kentucky University is comprehensive Public Institution of Higher Education, that offers, according to the Kentucky Council of Postsecondary Education, “general and liberal arts programs, pre-professional and professional training in education and various other fields,” (<http://cpe.ky.gov/institutions/state/eku.htm>) and therefore by its public mission ECU promotes Liberal Arts among other scholarly fields; and

2. Whereas, ECU is a publically owned institution promoting the Public Good through support of both liberal arts and professional training, it is therefore not a business, and those who take classes at ECU are students and not customers; and policy decisions must be made on criteria that support the institution’s public mission and not profit-driven or market-driven business models;

3. Whereas, “[T]he University’s primary mission is to develop educated persons by transmitting knowledge,” and “[t]he core function of the University is defined by its mission.” (Policy 1.5.1).

THEREFORE

4. Be it Resolved, that the Faculty Senate calls for the protection of ECU’s academic mission from excessive budget cuts, and that, given the exclusively academic purpose of the institution, academic segments of ECU must be the *lowest* priority for budget cuts, along with, pursuant to the public component of the institutional mission, protection of the lowest-paid and most financially vulnerable employees; and

5. Be it Resolved, that the Faculty Senate will pay very close attention to how budget deliberations are playing out in non-academic sectors of the university, both in the name of shared sacrifice and in order to protect and promote the academic mission of the institution.