

**University Faculty Senate  
Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee  
175<sup>th</sup> Plenary  
SUNY Old Westbury  
January 21, 2017**

### **Resolution on Contact Hours**

**Whereas** the most recent Memorandum to Presidents from the office of the vice chancellor for academic programs regarding the relationship of credit to contact hours for experiential learning is dated June 30, 1976; and

**Whereas** the June 30, 1976 Memorandum is outdated and does not reflect the actual credit/contact hour practices throughout SUNY, including the requirement for the student to satisfy clearly stated learning outcomes of college level learning; and

**Whereas** SUNY campuses need guidance for the Applied Learning Plans to be submitted to the SUNY Provost's Office in May, 2017; and

**Whereas** the 1976 SUNY Memorandum specifies that "When life or work experience is to be credited as a concurrent portion of an academic program design, as in an internship, one semester credit hour will be awarded for each 40-45 clock-hour week of supervised academic activity that provides the learning considered necessary to program study"; and

Whereas the definitions in New York State, [Title 8, Chapter II §50.1](#)(n) and (o) of the Regulations of the Commissioner indicate the **minimum** time requirements for awarding credit:

(n) "Credit means a unit of academic award applicable towards a degree offered by the institution."

(o) "Semester hour means a credit, point, or other unit granted for the satisfactory completion of a course which requires **at least** 15 hours (of 50 minutes each) of instruction and at least 30 hours of supplementary assignments, except as otherwise provided pursuant to section 52.2(c)(4) of this Subchapter. This basic measure shall be adjusted proportionately to translate the value of other academic calendars and formats of study in relation to the credit granted for study during the two semesters that comprise an academic year"; therefore be it

**Resolved** that the University Faculty Senate recommends to the Chancellor that the SUNY Policy on the award of credit for Experiential Learning be amended to make it congruent with the current Commissioner's Regulations.

Memorandum to Presidents is reproduced on the following pages for reference.

**175-03-1  
Resolution on Contact Hours  
Passed**