Motion to Establish an Ad Hoc Committee on the Manoa Undergraduate Experience, September 17, 1997

Proposal: In that the Manoa Senate Executive Committee acknowledges the essentiality of undergraduate education to Manoa's mission as a research university and, accordingly, as we are concerned about declining undergraduate enrollment at Manoa; the institutional fragmentation of responsibility for the Manoa undergraduate program: the increasing competitive pressures of community colleges, other private institutions and emerging virtual universities; and, finally, the need to articulate and, if necessary, implement a vision of a distinctive undergraduate experience suitable for a research university;

We Move

that the Manoa Faculty Senate establish an ad hoc committee on the Manoa undergraduate experience, with particular emphasis on the freshman and sophomore years;

that this committee consist of no more than 12 persons who will serve for a minimum of two years;

that the committee review and assess policies and practices affecting admissions and recruitment, the character of campus life, and the quality and integrity of the undergraduate program at Manoa, especially as these affect the freshman and sophomore years;

that the committee undertake pertinent research as necessary, issue periodic reports to the Manoa Senate on its findings, and made such recommendations to the Senate as it deems appropriate.

An amendment was proposed to have between one-fourth and one-half of the committee be students. Points raised in the discussion included whether one-half was too high, other ways exist to get student input, and it's already possible to appoint students based on the original proposal. The amendment failed: 13 yes, 19 no, 3 abstentions.

An amendment was proposed and seconded saying the committee would serve for one year and report recommendations then to the Senate. The amendment was approved: 32 yes, 0 no, and 3 abstentions.