

**Senate Question Period**  
October 30, 2012

Submitted by Senator Morelli

**6. Question regarding Senior Administration's consultation with Senate**

The 'Central Function' of Senate provides that Senate "... is concerned with all matters that affect the general welfare of the University and its constituents. Senate shall serve as a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas among the members of the University community."

In the past year alone we have seen many decisions made by Senior Administration without any consultation with Senate, let alone with the broader University community, and these decisions (such as the suspension of admissions to the BFA program in November 2011, or the more recent announcement that the administration plans to add residence capacity for 550 new beds, which could translate into an increased enrollment of 2200 students) have serious impacts on the general welfare of the University and its constituents.

Furthermore, the 'Purpose and Functions of Senate' document clearly states that Senate **will** "participate in strategic planning for the University, including but not limited to the budgetary process and campus planning and development."

In order for Senate to fulfill its obligations to the University we need to reclaim and reaffirm these functions. Senate must commit to discussing these types of major issues, and we must demand that our Senior Administrators bring all such major issues before Senate prior to committing the University to a particular course of action.

Will the Principal and Provost publicly commit Senior Administration to conduct itself in a consultative manner whereby major decisions, such as those noted above, are approved or at least discussed in Senate before the University is committed to particular courses of action?