

**Resolution**  
**For discussion at 9/23/22 special assembly**

WHEREAS, The Syracuse University School of Education (SOE) acknowledges internal and external pressures to align its values and priorities with its structures, actions, and messages in ways that will secure a thriving future.

WHEREAS, SOE's current portfolio of departments and programs relative to its size presents challenges to coherence, efficiency, and a sense of belonging for students, staff, and faculty.

WHEREAS, A greater focus on interdisciplinary collaboration in signature areas of distinction such as inclusion, equity, and social justice; experiential pedagogy; and instructional design and digital pedagogies will increase the reach and impact of teaching, learning, and scholarship in SOE.

WHEREAS, SOE has engaged in a multi-year, internally led effort, catalyzed by a call to action by the Faculty for Racial Justice and Equity (FREE) collective, with the intention of redesigning its structures, actions, and messages to promote 1) greater appeal for students whose interests align with our areas of distinction, 2) increased commitment to antiracism and inclusion, 3) greater efficiency to create new bandwidth for faculty and staff to innovate, and a 4) stronger commitment to fiscal sustainability.

WHEREAS, These efforts have resulted in a proposal for change, submitted to Vice Chancellor, Provost, and Chief Academic Officer Gretchen Ritter in May 2022, that now requires endorsement by the voting members of the SOE Assembly such that its components can be enacted over time, via more specific motions to change the SOE Bylaws; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Syracuse University School of Education will:

- de-departmentalize, adopting new School-wide leadership and governance structures.
- develop and sunset academic programs and allocate resources in ways that better balance its historical foci with other crucial and evolving areas in the field of education.
- develop a shared and signature-focused approach to doctoral studies that addresses existing and emerging specializations.
- develop mechanisms to strengthen the connections between SOE centers and the teaching, learning, and scholarship taking place in its academic programs.
- assess, intentionally and continuously, SOE's structures, policies, practices, and messages as they affect the School's ability to respond to demands for greater coherence, deliberate attention to social justice, and a sense of belonging for all.