

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STAFF COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-01

February 20, 2014

RESOLUTION REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF SHARED SERVICES PLANS ON  
THE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

In January 2013, President Powers revealed the findings of the President's Committee on Business Productivity. From this initiative came the idea of an administrative shared services model for financial services, procurement, information technology, human resources, and payroll.<sup>i</sup> In October 2013, a draft of the UT Shared Services Plan was published with a request for feedback from the campus stakeholders. Throughout this process, The University of Texas at Austin Staff Council (UTSC) has been involved in representing the staff of the university to the Administration, as well as bringing forward the questions and concerns directly related to our mission. We have worked to collect feedback from the constituents across campus, and have used this information to draft our resolution pertaining to a Shared Services Model.

The UTSC is aware that this program is tentative and still in the planning stage, but specifically ask the Administration to take into account the following points during future endeavors related to the project:

1. The UTSC does not support layoffs related to the implementation of a campus-wide Shared Services Plan.
2. The UTSC would like to have continued open forum and 'town hall' meetings with The University of Texas at Austin Administration throughout the entirety of the project. These kinds of forums help to promote open dialogue among all stakeholders within the university, and foster transparency of the project and discussion in many areas.
3. If a Shared Services Program is implemented, the UTSC requests that the Administration provide professional development events for employees to update their professional resumes and cover letters, as well as a career fair event to advertise shared services opportunities and increase networking opportunities. Also, preference should be given to current university employees when filling positions with Shared Services.
4. The UTSC supports communication with the UT Faculty Council regarding Shared Services. Its goal is to enable staff to share their point of view directly with Faculty Council, and to provide the same opportunity for faculty.

Most importantly, we would like the Administration to embrace the understanding that the staff's wellbeing is vital to the mission of the university, and that there is great potential for a Shared Services Model to either help, or hurt, our constituency. We appreciate that "what starts here changes the world," and want to continue to be a valued part of this change.

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<sup>i</sup> "Mission & Objectives." Transforming UT Mission & Objectives. Accessed January, 2014.  
<http://www.utexas.edu/transforming-ut/about/mission-objectives>.