

Members of the Faculty Senate:

I wish to clarify to you my opposition to the move of SPIA from the graduate school to CLAS. As the Founding Director of the School, I was intimately involved in crafting its mission, in moving it from CBPPH to the Graduate School and in, in fairness, a deep, at times contentious set of hearings and discussions about SPIA. I promise to keep my observations short. I have included three documents--the first correspondence with the PCRRC and a cover letter in April 2008 addressing faculty senate concerns over funding and faculty lines within SPIA. The third document is the SPIA proposal with additional commentary (in red for ease of reading).

## 1. Process

There has never been, to the absolute best of my knowledge, any meeting called to discuss this change with the Faculty of SPIA. Moreover, even in the 1 email over spring break that noted a pre-proposal was being submitted, were the faculty of SPIA provided with a copy of the pre or the final proposal. The final proposal, which I have attached, with commentary in red for ease of reading, notes that the process unfolded over a year and that "Dr Teisl included the PAC in informal discussions." Did the PAC actually vote or have a formal meeting to discuss the proposal. The process does not strike me as including the faculty of the school in it at all and I thought that was part of faculty governance.

## 2. Substance

This move is far more than "...merely changing the SPIA reporting lines from the Dean and Associate Provost for Graduate Studies to the Dean of CLAS" (SPIA final proposal) as it fundamentally alters the mission of the School, suggests new faculty hires and lines and provides absolutely no clear role for the overwhelmingly non-CLAS faculty involved with SPIA.

The proposal has numerous declarative statements with no supporting evidence whatsoever.

They also note that "..There are no additional costs as a result of the reorganization." but earlier on in the same document they observe "It also increases opportunities to participate in faculty hiring decisions or gain faculty lines and/or joint appointments." This would seem to me to involve additional resources.

My view is to leave it in the Graduate School--there is nothing in the proposal as currently written that could not be undertaken under the auspices of the Graduate School. SPIA will become a unit within CLAS and not be an interdisciplinary unit that cuts across Colleges within UMAINE.

Thank you for considering this.

John F. Mahon  
John M. Murphy Chair of International  
Business Policy and Strategy and  
Professor of Management

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