April 2017 agenda item E.2, as amended

The Faculty Senate Steering Committee proposes the following resolution:

**Whereas** the Educational Policy Committee has found that increasing class size arbitrarily can have a negative impact on educational quality, on students, and on faculty, **be it resolved** that the Faculty Senate concurs with the Educational Policy Committee’s recommendation that contemplated decisions “to increase class size should include a systematic evaluation of the change beyond budgetary and accreditation concerns,” including consideration of retention, student success, effective teaching, and faculty workload, as outlined in the Educational Policy Committee memorandum to Faculty Senate of 15 March 2017, entitled “Impact of Increasing Class Size and Recommendations for a Systematic Assessment Approach.”

**Rationale.** EPC, in its role as the Senate committee charged with making recommendations to Senate about educational policies that cut across the curriculum, has found that research shows significant potential impacts of increasing class size on student success and educational quality, as well as on faculty members’ work. While recognizing that budgetary considerations must play a role, the EPC report urges that these other concerns also be taken into systematic account. Consonant with PSU’s Strategic Plan, elevating student success and advancing excellence in teaching should be central to the evaluation.

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1 April 2017 Faculty Senate Packet, Attachment G.3.b.