Resolution on the change to scanning services at the Technology Support Center (TSC)

WHEREAS the Faculty of Bowling Green State University are committed to implementing best practices in teaching pedagogy, and

WHEREAS the BGSU Administration has been encouraging timely feedback to students in courses as a best practice in teaching, and

WHEREAS the Collective Bargaining Agreement Article 5 “Working Environment” states that the University shall, in a timely fashion, provide the faculty with instructional services appropriate to support the teaching and learning process and access to adequate instructional support, and

WHEREAS on 12/17/18 through 1/3/19 a note in Campus Update announced a change to the academic scanning process effective 1/1/19, increasing the turnaround time for exams and evaluations submitted to the TSC from 24 to 48 hours, and

WHEREAS no other communication of this change was received by the faculty as a whole, and

WHEREAS faculty commonly use the TSC for academic scanning for various assessment and evaluation purposes within their classes, and

WHEREAS the announced change to academic scanning will significantly impact the ability of faculty to provide timely feedback, as the 48-hour turnaround eliminates the possibility of having results in the next class meeting in the typical course meeting two or three times a week, and in the case of a course meeting twice a week may push the feedback to a full week from when the activity was done instead of two days, and

WHEREAS Faculty Senate as the representative body of the faculty was not consulted or informed of this change, and

WHEREAS the faculty were not informed of this change in a timely manner, as the initial announcement arrived the Monday after finals week through Campus Update only, with implementation taking place before even the winter session began, thus giving faculty minimal time to adapt courses to respond, and

WHEREAS the note in Campus Update was last present on 1/3/19, thus disappearing on the second day of winter session, and

WHEREAS Canvas does not provide a suitable alternate platform to replace physical paper scanning due to

a) physical infrastructure limitations in classrooms, as many classrooms are not equipped with sufficient desk space for laptops for all student and are not equipped with power plugs for every student which would be needed for a longer assessment, and

b) online assessment has many more opportunities for cheating, and

c) recent research shows that for otherwise similar students online assessment has a negative impact on test scores (https://www.future-ed.org/work/paper-vs-online-testing-whats-the-impact-on-test-scores/)
WHEREAS Communication issues and lack of collaborative development of policy and procedural changes has been observed within other service units not limited to TSC

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the policy change be reversed and the TSC make every effort to ensure that the turnaround for academic scanning remains at 24 hours, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ITC will investigate the impact of this change and potential future changes on pedagogy and assessment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that TSC and other service units of the University collaborate with the faculty through the representative body of Faculty Senate during the process of considering any change that affects the pedagogical work of the faculty, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon agreement TSC and other service units of the University give adequate and timely notification of significant changes through joint communication with Faculty Senate to allow faculty proper time to adjust the teaching pedagogy of their classes as may be necessary.