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Memorandum on the Organisation of a Separate Faculty  
of Economics at the University of Athens

PROPOSALS

I

It is recommended that a separate and independent Faculty of Economic Sciences at the University of Athens be established. This Faculty should -

1. Possess an independent personnel comprising at least five full professors and a necessary complement of lecturers, assistants, etc.
2. Offer a course of studies in basic economic sciences and auxiliary disciplines, -- such as, Statistics, Accounting, etc. -- organized around an independent and self-contained curriculum.
3. Grant academic degrees in Economics with specialization in Economic Theory, Economic Statistics, Economic History, Money and Banking, International Economic Relations, Government Finance and Fiscal Policy, Agricultural Economics and Industrial Economics.
4. Sponsor and support through provision of the necessary material facilities research in various fields of pure and applied economics.

II

The initial personnel of this new Faculty of Economic Sciences should be composed of -

1. Professors, lecturers and assistants now already

engaged in the teaching of Economics and auxiliary disciplines in the Faculty of Law and possibly some other Faculties of the University.

2. A few newly appointed professors who would be required if the new Department were to offer a complete curriculum of instructions and support a balanced program of research.

#### SUPPORTING CONSIDERATIONS

1. Historically the differentiation in the organization of higher education--and particularly the separation of independent Faculties within the Universities--reflected and followed rather closely the basic developments of human knowledge characterized by differentiation and corresponding gradual separation of its various specialized branches.

The recognition of Economics as a separate field of knowledge has first come about in Anglo-Saxon countries (England, the United States, and somewhat later, Germany). In France and most other Latin countries, the relatively slower rate of economic development combined with the conservative influence of Roman Law and the related rigidity of educational organization imposed by Napoleonic constitutions is still preventing the effective recognition of Economics as a separate basic field of University instruction.

2. The absence of an independent and specialized course of studies (and research) in Economics at the Universities has prevented, or, at least, greatly handicapped, the development in these countries of Economics as a profession comparable to that of Law, or, for example, Medicine.

The shortage of professional experts has prevented these countries from taking full advantage of the numerous practical applications of modern Economic Sciences in various fields of:-

- a. Domestic business
- b. Domestic government administration
- c. International relations, public and private

Particularly, in dealing with foreign governments and in participating in activities of various international organizations--many of which have mainly, or, at least, partly, economic functions--the shortage of well-trained

economic experts constitutes a serious handicap.

3. The development of a sufficiently large corp of professionals is practically impossible without the existence of a well rounded specialized curriculum of University instructions and advanced research in Economics. Experience has shown that such curriculum cannot be developed and maintained within a Faculty--for example, the Faculty of Law or a School of Commerce--the majority of whose members has neither technical or practical interest nor scientific competence in that subject.

Only through creation of a separate and independent--i.e. co-equal in its rights and responsibilities to the Faculty of Law, Medicine, etc.--Faculty of Economic Sciences will it be possible to provide conditions necessary for a successful development of this important field of modern, higher education.

