

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Eduardo and Andy,

I am writing in response to the call for comments on the draft WASC Institutional Proposal.

First, throughout the document there is repeated reference to the FYE Pilot that will be implemented in Fall of 2006, with no reference to prior appropriate review and approval by Senate bodies. This proposal could have significant and long term consequences for our curriculum and should therefore be formally reviewed and approved at the very least by EPC, preferably by the full Senate.

Second, the document refers to the conversation about the mark of an SSU education in the schools, spearheaded by the Deans. It would seem that the Senate or its appropriate bodies would be an appropriate place for this conversation as well.

Third, Outcome Two under Sub-Theme Five - Value of Diversity, refers to a curriculum that addresses issues of diversity. Part of this process should be to evaluate the curriculum we already have. Such a curriculum also needs to be developed consistent with the value of academic freedom, and this is important enough to receive specific mention in the document.

Fourth, reference is made in Outcome One of Sub-Theme Four Faculty Roles, to continued discussion of potential revision of RTP procedures. I would prefer to make this question at the Senate today, but I hope that the administration and FSAC keep the full Senate well informed about this process, with any proposed changes made by the Provost's office readily available foreview for interested members of the campus community.

Best,

Catherine