From: Provost Office
To: Ali Ahmed O; Angell Carol A; Brunsell Eric S; Chaney Barbara J; Davies Jon S; Koppelman Kent L; Krajewski Robert J; Malisa Mark; Richardson Robert L; Shanks Joyce V; Walsko Gregory M; Wegner Gregory P; Finders Margaret J;
cc: Benson Ruthann E; Hoar Robert H; Hoffman Michael A; Morgan Betsy L; Wilson Carmen R;
Subject: Academic Program Review
Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2008 3:51:24 PM

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN
LA CROSSE

April 20, 2008

To: Members of the Education Studies Programs: EC-MC / MC-EA / EA-A / EC-A

From: Bill Colclough, Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Re: Academic Program Review

As one component of a commitment to excellence at UW-La Crosse, academic departments undergo an Academic Program Review (APR) on a regular cycle. Departments that have external accreditation, participate in UW-L's APR the year following their accreditation review. Departments without external accreditation participate in the process every seven years and the process includes an external reviewer. Free standing minors go through an abbreviated process every seven years.

Each department develops a self-study as part of the process that reflects on curriculum, assessment, new initiatives, personnel, and support for achieving the program's goals. Academic program review is the responsibility of the faculty who comprise an academic department. Consequently, we are sending this letter to all members of your department.

The Education Studies Programs: EC-MC / MC-EA / EA-A / EC-A will undergo review by APR in 2011. The department's last APR was reviewed by Faculty Senate in 2006. *

In the latest review the recommendations listed below were put forth by APR.

Since the time of the review these recommendations may have gained or lost salience. However, in your next review, your department will be asked to describe how they responded to the recommendations.

1. *Hire a permanent Director of Teacher Education.*

2. *Pursue new faculty positions, especially in Science Education, Reading/ Literacy Education, Educational Foundations, Early Childhood Education, and Masters of Education-Professional Development Director.*

3. *Focus on completing the process of reorganization and Middle Level/ Secondary Program reform that is outlined in the "Working Draft - 10/28/04" document within the EC-MC/MC-EA and EA-AIEC-A self-study.*

4. *Work with the Faculty Senate Office to locate previous Academic Program Review documentation. The data included in these documents may be useful in future planning initiatives.*

5. *Continue to seek UW-L research and faculty development funding, UW System grants, and external funding.*

6. *Implement a plan for unit-wide evaluation of all field experiences.*

7. *Implement the self-assessment rubric for oral language and writing.*

8. *Implement a formalized system for peer review of teaching.*

9. *Begin collecting data from alumni surveys and employer surveys.*

Over the past several years, the Provost's Office has worked with the APR committee and Faculty Senate to ensure up-to-date and useful documentation regarding APR. At the Faculty Senate website you will find timelines, policy, self-study formats, and samples of letters and schedules for external reviewers: http://www.uwlax.edu/facultysenate/committees/APRindex.html.At the Provost's Office website, we have posted the last set of APR recommendations for each unit/ department and the full documentation for several of the more recently reviewed programs. http://www.uwlax.edu/provost/assessment/apr/calendar.htm.

Please feel free to ask your chair, Faculty Senate or our office about the process if you have questions.

CC: Ruthann Benson (Dean of College of Liberal Studies)
Bob Hoar (Faculty Intern to the Provost 2008-2009)
Mike Hoffman (Chair – APR 2007-2008)
Betsy Morgan (Faculty Intern to the Provost 2007-2008)
Carmen Wilson (Chair – Faculty Senate 2007-2008)

* The cycle for programs is based on the schedule posted at the link below: http://www.uwlax.edu/facultysenate/committees/APRindex.html.
Departments may request an official deferment for cause for one year. Only an official deferment alters the schedule.

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