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| **From:** | Provost Office |
| **To:** | Ardovino Patricia S; Arimond George R; Berns Gretchen C; Holland Jearold W; Murray Susan E; Navar Nancy H; Simpson Steven V; Wadell Keith A; |
| **cc:** | Mclean Karen P; Hoar Robert H; Hoffman Michael A; Morgan Betsy L; Wilson Carmen R; |
| **Subject:** | Academic Program Review |
| **Date:** | Thursday, May 15, 2008 3:17:29 PM |

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN
LA CROSSE

April 15, 2008

To: Members of the Recreation Management and Therapeutic Recreation Department

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 Recreation Management and Therapeutic Recreation Department will undergo review by APR in 2008. The department's last APR was reviewed by Faculty Senate in 2004.*

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. *Actively seek administration support to replace the recently eliminated faculty position. Seek alternatives to avoid cutting course offerings and student learning opportunities that might be in danger as a result of the lost faculty position.*
2. *Actively seek administration support to improve clerical support.*
3. *Actively maintain alumni contacts through continued regular newsletter and internship contacts, and utilize these contacts as funding sources such as the Leadership Challenge Fund Drive.*
4. *Address the problem of intern supervision, most notably the recreation internship programs, which have a 48 to 1 student-to-teacher ratio.*
5. *Improve graduate recruitment, most notably seeking funding for resources to implement an on-line distance education program, so as to compete with other graduate institutions.*

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: Karen McLean (Dean of Science and Health)
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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