

University of Washington Correspondence

INTERDEPARTMENTAL

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TO: Dean Suzanne Ortega and UDP Review Committee

FROM: Hilda Blanco, Chair

DATE: August 3, 2007

SUBJECT: Response to UDP Review Committee Report

We appreciate the Review Committee's thoughtful report and useful recommendations which we are committed to implement. The following comments address the Review Committee's comments on the highlighted topics.

On Promotion, Mentoring and Tenure Review Procedures

The Department has committed to develop and approve more specific guidelines based on the School of Nursing's standards and criteria during the Fall of 2007. At the end of spring quarter, we designated a committee of the faculty to develop guidelines for promotion and tenure and to bring these back to the full faculty for discussion and adoption.

Faculty Mentoring

We welcome the suggestion to assign senior faculty mentoring committees for assistant professors. We have already formed such a committee for Jan Whittington, and will form committees for the other assistant professors by early fall.

MUP

Diversity

We appreciate the committee's recognition of our diversity plan and would like to note that our renewed efforts to recruit minority students have paid off this year. We were able to recruit two African American students as well as an Asian American student through a combination of GO-MAP tuition waiver and CAUP scholarships. One of these students is also benefiting from a Seattle Housing Authority dedicated internship. The Seattle Housing Authority and the Department are developing a memorandum of agreement to establish this internship on an ongoing basis for this purpose.

Advising

The faculty met this spring and took steps to improve advising. We approved the following steps:

- A) To make the individual advisor-advisee relation more effective, students will be assigned individual advisors at orientation. The new policy will require that students meet with their advisor at least once per quarter to obtain advice and approval for the following quarter's courses. Without the approval from the faculty advisor, students will not be able to register.
- B) To provide updated information on the web, a faculty committee on the specializations met in the spring and early summer to update specialization requirements. Information on course requirements for all specializations will be available on the Departmental web site by early September 2007. Two staff members of the Department have obtained training to keep the website updated on an ongoing basis.

Strategic Plan

Subsequent to the Review Committee's visit to the Department, the faculty met this spring and approved the Strategic Plan. We appreciate and agree with the Review Committee's comments on faculty resources, our involvement with the Ph.D. programs and our goals for becoming a cutting-edge department, as well as the Department's use of current resources.

Development

We appreciate the Review Committee's comments on Development and the necessity to focus on this issue as soon as possible. As part of the Strategic Plan implementation, the faculty met this spring and organized itself into several committees, one of which will focus on Resources beginning this fall. The first task of this committee will be to meet with CAUP's Development Office and develop a workable plan to establish an ongoing alumni association as the Review Committee suggests.

New State Resources

We strongly agree with the Committee's recommendation to add permanent faculty lines to place the CEP program on a more stable course. This is a program of proven excellence and committed faculty which deserves University support. We also strongly support the Committee's call for additional resources for the proposed Masters in Urban Ecology.

Closing

We appreciate the Review Committee's efforts in conducting this review. We are particularly pleased that the same Committee that reviewed the Department several years ago has recognized the strides the Department has made since then. Thank you so much for your valuable assessment.

Cc: Daniel Friedman, Dean of the College of Architecture and Urban Planning