

Report to the Faculty Senate

November 17, 2004

*Submitted by Sue K. Hammersmith, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
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I. LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

In 2003-04, UWGB's Student Affairs Committee looked in depth at our students' opportunities and experiences in learning outside the classroom (e.g., through internships, service learning, research projects, etc.). They note a positive correlation between such engagement and students' grades and academic skill development, as well as a number of obstacles students and community members face in pursuing such engagement. Considering both the benefits and challenges of learning outside the classroom, the Committee offers a number of specific recommendations. The complete report is attached.

II. NATIONAL SURVEY OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT BENCHMARK REPORT

UWGB's November 2004 "Institutional Benchmark Report" (attached) includes information about how UWGB freshmen and seniors rate their college experience, compared with other UW campuses and with Master's-degree-granting institutions nationally, on five key dimensions.

Compared with other students in the UW System, UWGB freshmen and seniors rate our campus environment as more supportive of their success, and seniors report a higher level of academic challenge. UWGB students give us lower ratings than their peers at other institutions, however, with respect to:

- o active and collaborative learning.*
- o student-faculty interaction.*
- o enriching educational experiences (including diversity).*

The attached report gives the specific questions asked for each of these dimensions.

III. HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE (HERI) FACULTY SURVEY

The Provost's Office and Campus Climate Committee are jointly sponsoring the administration of the HERI survey to all faculty and instructional academic staff. This is a national paper-and-pencil survey instrument that looks at faculty's satisfaction, engagement, and experience with campus climate. This first time around, we will get benchmark data for our own faculty. The survey will be anonymous. It will be administered by Debbie Furlong (Institutional Research) and analyzed by David Prestby (Assessment Services). A comparable survey has been developed for academic staff and will be administered this semester as well.

IV. UPDATES ON ACADEMIC MATTERS

- o **Honorary Degree Committee reactivation.** UWGB's committee to recommend and approve recipients of honorary doctorates has been reactivated.*
- o **General education requirements for 2nd baccalaureate degree.** The attached interpretation, endorsed by the Academic Affairs Council, extends UC policy for UW associate degree holders to UW baccalaureate degree holders.*
- o **Grade change appeal procedure.** UWGB policy on grade appeals directs students to the instructor, then the unit chair, then the dean, but does not indicate what procedures to use. The attached statement, which has been reviewed by the deans and the University Committee, outlines procedures for making and acting upon grade appeals.*
- o **International Education Council.** The charge for the International Education Council, which is being revised slightly based on feedback from Senators and other stakeholders. I will circulate it electronically for another round of review and hope we can implement this council at the beginning of the Spring semester.*

Respectfully submitted,

Sue H.

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