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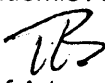
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August 19, 2010

MANOA CHANCELLOR'S
OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Reed Dasenbrock
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

FROM: Thomas R. Bingham 
Interim Dean, College of Arts and Humanities

SUBJECT: A&H Response/Plan to Address Recommendations from Program Review

Overall, the reviewers noted that the College of Arts and Humanities “possesses considerable strengths in all areas of research, teaching, and service,” and serves as “a vibrant eco-system of engaged faculty, staff, and students.”

We have examined the issues identified by the review team as most critical to the departments and to the College. We have consulted with each department chair regarding the issues their reviewer’s comments. The chairs will submit their action plans after consultation with faculty by August 31, and will submit progress reports by May 31, 2011. The Academy for Creative Media became a member of the College after the review and so is not included in this process.

A number of issues identified by the reviewers were noted to be systemic to the campus rather than unique to A&H and need to be addressed at levels higher than the College. The following issues are those that are most critical to the College and are within our ability to address effectively.

1. “The College of Arts and Humanities lacks a clear and convincing mission.”

- The College will review and work to clarify and invigorate its mission through collaboration with and in consultation with faculty and chairs.

2. Allocation of resources

“Chairs should be actively involved in developing a five-year plan for the College of Arts and Humanities....departments should discuss how vacant lines could be best utilized to meet student needs and the research profile of the College as a whole.”

“We encourage an internal reallocation of resources in support of new interdisciplinary initiatives...”

- The College will develop a five-year hiring plan that considers the revised College mission, student needs, the College scholarship profile, interdisciplinary initiatives, and the goals outlined in the Chancellors New Directions document.

3. "Given the current funding situation and the general crisis in humanities doctoral education (see *The Chronicle Review*, April 9, 2010), departments exercise greater selectivity in the admittance of Ph.D. students."
 - The College will work with the departments of American Studies, History, and Philosophy to engage the faculty in discussions regarding the merit of quality vs. quantity, and to work towards a review of admission standards for Ph.D. programs.
4. "The College of Arts and Humanities should be more entrepreneurial; this includes encouraging grant writing and the creation of summer programs."
 - The College will promote and encourage distance education as an entrepreneurial activity, expanded summer session offerings for UHM students, and developing summer programs to attract new "customers."
 - The College will take steps to expand A Semester Almost Abroad (renamed A Semester in Hawaii) by increasing spring enrollment and explore expanding into the summer sessions.
 - To encourage grant writing, the College will explore a pay for service protocol with SSRI and other campus grant support offices.

Finally we need to note that there is one issue that urgently needs to be addressed yet is beyond the power and scope of A&H. The Departments of Music and Theatre and Dance need performing spaces.

As elaborated in the review for Theater and Dance, performance spaces for students are "abysmal, if not hazardous." Reviewers noted that "seed money to renovate (or replace) existing space represents a wise investment of resources given expected returns in community attendance and donor stewardship. Part of the capital campaign should be dedicated to enhancing the cultural arts at UH-Mānoa, especially with regard to providing performances spaces worthy of a dynamic and innovative Departments of Music and Theater and Dance."

While we understand that there were many important issues that need to be addressed at the University level, provision of appropriate performance space is critically important for the continued success of Departments of Music and Theatre and Dance. We would like assistance from the OVCAA to ensure that this issue receives necessary attention at the University level to prompt action.