



MEMORANDUM

November 23, 2016

To: Michael Bruno
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and
Vice Chancellor for Research

FROM: Ronald E. Cambra
Assistant Vice Chancellor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ronald E. Cambra'.

SUBJECT: Third Year Program Review Response Report

I am pleased to present the Office of Undergraduate Education's (OUE) third year program review response report. OUE continues to make significant progress on each of the recommendations made by our external review team.

The recommendation dealt with reviewing the relationship between our offices and to identify areas of shared goals, etc. Over the last two years, our office has led discussions with all of our units. These discussions have led our office to draft a proposed re-organization of units along similar and shared mission goals. The task for our office was to identify structures that would make it easier for units with similar goals to work closely together while still feeling they are a part of a larger common academic mission. The process has resulted in a proposal for reorganizing OUE that was advanced a few months ago to the VCAA, returned with feedback, and is currently being re-written, hopefully advancing by early spring 2017.

Another immediate result of this re-organization discussion has been the need for OUE to effectively tell its story of work and accomplishments. It has become clearer and clearer that without OUE explaining its work, students are confused on the goals of projects and how the desired outcomes will improve the quality of their undergraduate experience. Our OUE website will shortly reconnect all OUE units around common themes and major initiatives. UHM initiatives focused on graduation rates and retention will clearly be identified.

The Program Review also cited the important need for more academic advisors in key advising offices on campus. One such office is our new transfer advising office, the Mānoa Transfer Coordination Center (MTCC), home of our Ka'ie'ie initiative. Currently, we have four people working at Community Colleges on Oahu and Maui. Our ultimate goal is to have advisors on all Community College campuses by the end of spring 2017. Two new initiatives that have impacted transfer growth at UHM have been the institution of Community College counselor workshops at UHM and the creation of our new Student Transfer Ambassador's

program. The Student Transfer Ambassador's program has former Community College students now at UHM meeting students on all Community College campuses to answer student questions.

The OUE Program Review also identified quality space as an important need for several OUE units. Discussions are continuing on the plan to expand several offices, specifically the Honors Program, the First Year Program, and the Learning Assistance Center, in Sinclair Library when space in Sinclair becomes available. Also, the full development of a Student Success Center at Sinclair still remains a goal of OUE.

Finally, while OUE has played a major role in improving graduation rates at UHM, and will continue to do so, it has been asked to shift its focus to retention issues and the task of creating a supportive and engaged campus to foster a sense of belonging that students will translate as a major reason for completing their degree or degrees at UHM.

Mahalo.