Kinesiology and Health Action Plan commitments

March 10, 2009

As a follow up to our meeting on February 19, 2009 to discuss the review of academic programs in the department of Kinesiology and Health, the following comments are made:

The department is commended for this plan and the progress that has been made in many areas under the previous Action Plan. In particular, the department is applauded for its plan to provide resources to academic programs with high student/faculty ratios and to reduce the percentage of its courses taught by part-time instructors. However, given the economic conditions that are likely to prevail for the next three years, it is problematic to continue programs that are significantly under-enrolled.

The external review team noted the small enrollment in the doctoral program and more importantly the small number of students graduating from the Ph.D. program [average 1 per year]. Also, there is insufficient federal funding support of faculty research. If demand for the doctoral program does not increase, student graduate rates do not improve, placement of doctoral alumni in peer or aspirant institutions does not occur, and sufficient research funding to support students and faculty research is not obtained by academic year 2011-2012, the Ph.D. program should be deactivated and no additional students admitted.

Benchmarks to be attained include placement of at least a third of the graduates in faculty positions at peer or aspirant institutions in the next three-year period; external funding to support at least half of the students in the program; and attrition rates no greater than 33% averaged over successive three-year cohorts.

The following commitments are made in the context of the Provost’s office advocating for additional resources as part of its top priority requests, contingent upon consistency with the dean’s recommendations and availability of funds:

Estimated cost* for Year 1 [FY 10]
Replace TT vacancy in Sports Medicine with NTT $ 0
Initiate search for additional NTT in Sports Medicine
Replace vacant NTT in Sports Administration with temp NTT

Estimated cost* for Year 2 [FY 11]
Replace temp NTT in Sports Administration with TT