

REVISED AGENDA
DEPARTMENT CHAIR MEETING
Thursday, August 27, 2009
10:00 a.m. – noon
Goodwin Forum
Light refreshments will be available

1. Announcements

2. Diversity – Metrics Report

Attached: link to Metrics Report (distributed in hard copy 8/19/09)
http://www.humboldt.edu/~diversity/diversity_reports.php

Background: Given the prominence of diversity within HSU's vision, it is no surprise that "inclusive excellence" is at the core of the university's current efforts toward institutional transformation. Where we stand in our progress toward the goals of diversity and inclusion, however, is not always as clear as the goals themselves. How is our campus actually doing in achieving these core values? In order to aid our ability to answer this question, I requested that the Office of Diversity and Inclusion collaborate with other campus units to initiate an annual report to campus on a range of diversity-related indicators. The first such report was issued Wednesday, August 19, 2009 (available at link above).

Actions: Review the scope of the report's findings; discuss actions at the department level as well as possible collective actions for the Council of Chairs

3. Fall 2009 Academic Advising Recommendation

Attached: A. DRAFT Advising Program options;
B. Education Advisory Board Custom Research Brief: Increasing Student Participation in Academic Advising

Background: Humboldt State University has a mandatory advising policy that was enforced through the use of registration codes available only from students' academic advisors, until the transition from Banner to PeopleSoft made it impossible to continue that practice. In the PeopleSoft system, the only way to enforce the advising requirement is to implement a "negative service request" – a hold on students' records that will prevent them from registering until the advisor removes it. When asked whether this mechanism should be adopted for Fall 2009, the first round of registration under PeopleSoft, the Council of Chairs recommended against such implementation, while affirming their support of mandatory advising. They requested that we explore other possible approaches to encouraging student contact with advisors. The attached recommendations are the result of that exploration.

Also attached for your reference is the full custom research brief prepared for us by the Education Advisory Board.

Action: Identify which of the steps included in the recommendation will be acted on by the Council of Chairs; develop a timeline for completion.

4. 09/10 Budget

Attached: A. Base Budget Changes 2009/10 (dated 8/4/09)
B. Academic Affairs 2009-10 Reduction Plan (dated 8/12/09)

Background: Attached are two of the planning documents for this year's budget reduction planning. This year, most of the reductions are going to be covered with one time money, but we have to plan for base budget reductions in FY 10/11. I am interested in a general discussion on how we are going to plan for the base budget discussions.

Action: Advice to me on planning for these base budget reductions.

5. Academic Departmental Reorganization.

Background: I have been asked by several chairs to provide a divisional forum for discussing this issue. All three colleges are looking at administrative reorganization. I understand this to be combining departments administratively so that they may have common staff and chairs, perhaps some committees, but still be separate departments. There is some interest in expanding this discussion to include other types of reorganization: colleges, schools, centralizing staff functions to the division, curricular reorganizations, interdisciplinary combinations, etc.

Action: Decide if there is sufficient interest in expanding this conversation. If so, what is the process and time line.