



Channel Islands

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS · PROVOST

October 19, 2009

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Dear Phil:

I am writing to ask for your service on a temporary task force focused upon the STEM initiative.

The purpose of the task force will be to provide leadership and strategic direction to improve our position for success in the STEM areas. We must develop a process to coordinate programs, create the necessary infrastructure and services that support faculty in its production and delivery, and ensure sustainability.

The following principles should guide the deliberations:

- Programs should align with the mission of the University,
- Programs should be responsive to a demonstrated need,
- Programs are to be well integrated with existing programs and those already on the master plan.

Deliverables: A report to include:

- A portfolio of courses and programs currently offered by the University,
- A summary list of programs; evaluate positioning within the overall educational landscape (learning objectives and curriculum),
- Recommendation as to how programs should be conducted at the University while paying special attention to providing a rigorous academic experience,
- Consideration of self-supporting programs (in times of budget restrictions)
- Funding assessment
- Outline the implementation, facilities, budget and other key considerations.

I hope you will agree to serve on this important task force. I will ask the task force to provide recommendations by February 15, 2010. As you know, Dr. Rush has reconsidered the structure of committees to reduce redundancy while maintaining the balance of perspectives. In the case of the STEM Committee, he has requested that I appoint a facilitator to take the project forward. Therefore, I have asked Dr. Ching-Hua Wang to serve in this capacity as my representative. Dr. Wang and I have discussed the need for a broad based approach and structure that should be created inclusive of faculty development, undergraduate research, teacher education, program coordination, outreach, etc.

While I know that you are very busy, I still hope that you will consider serving on this task force. Please indicate your willingness directly to Ching by Friday, October 23, 2009.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Dawn Neuman'.

Dawn Neuman
Provost and Vice President

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