May 22, 2013

ELIZABETH ABRAMS
Chair, Committee on Committees

Dear Elizabeth:

Re: Summer Strategy Group Member Request

I write to request suggested faculty members for a Summer Strategy Group, a team of faculty and staff who will be examining a number of summer session issues and developing plans for the future. I will be discussing with CPB the desirability, purpose, and charge of such a group and will immediately provide you with any significant updates to this request. For reference I have attached my recent memo to CPB on this topic, additional related documents are available on the UE documents website: http://www.ue.ucsc.edu/summer13.

The overall goal of the SSG follows the Committee on Planning and Budget’s November 2012 memo concerning summer session planning: “identifying an overall campus vision for what the Summer Session curriculum will consist of, and work[ing] backwards to create a business model and stakeholder incentives to create a sustainable model.”

The SSG would include several staff from the divisions, including a mix of different types (e.g., an assistant dean, a department manager, a curriculum analysis, an undergraduate advisor), representatives from Planning & Budget and the Graduate Division, ideally three faculty members, and Undergraduate Education representatives (e.g., Summer Session, Associate Vice Provost, Coordinator of Academic Advising, VPDUE). Summer Session has been and is continuing to gather input broadly on all aspects of summer session, in particular from department managers (Academic Business Officers Group) and assistant deans, as well as many individual discussions. The group would also work closely at times with the Academic Personnel Office.

The SSG would be advantaged by having a current or future CPB member (ideally, a continuing member). The remaining faculty could be at large or be drawn from Educational Policy, Graduate Council, Preparatory Education, or other committees.

The draft goals of the SSG include:

• Articulating the most promising strategic initiatives for summer session.
• Evaluating possibilities among the multitude of competing funding goals—ladder faculty, graduate student instructors, teaching assistants, graduate student researchers, the campus as a whole, departments, divisions, financial aid, and of course student retention, graduation, and time to degree.
• Considering the systems used by other summer sessions, in particular other UC campuses. For example, UC1 introduced a “pay for only 8” program of tuition discounting this year, letting students enroll in up to 20 units while paying for just 8.
• Determining the best ways to continue and expand our focus on transparency and local decisions with respect to summer session curricular planning.
Thank you for your assistance; I regret the late timing of this request.

Sincerely,

Richard Hughey
Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education

cc: EVC Galloway
    Senate Chair Konopelski
    CPB Chair Westerkamp
    AVP Fiske Bailey
    Director Parikh