



*Office of the Dean of Instruction*

January 20, 2021

The Office of the Dean of Instruction is calling for faculty, staff, administration, and students, to serve on a much-needed *Ad Hoc* Committee on Academic and Organizational Innovation for Academic Affairs. This committee will adopt a two pronged approach to finding new, high quality, highly relevant programs to offer our students and also to inquire into the adequacy and effectiveness of the organizational structure of Academic Affairs.

The first “prong” of work for this committee is the necessary and appropriate follow up of the work we recently accomplished in our Program Prioritization, which saw six obsolete and ineffective programs leave our program offering catalogue. As we “sunset” those programs, they will be “taught out” until the students who enrolled in them are fully accommodated.

That leaves much room for program innovation which is the foremost task of the new *Ad Hoc* Committee on Academic and Organizational Innovation. We will assemble the appropriate faculty, staff, students, and administrators for the committee and will launch into the study of new and cutting edge programs that can be of great promise to our students and their careers.

The second “prong” of work will focus upon assessing program effectiveness and adequacy and we will also assemble another group of faculty, staff, students, and administrators to study the effectiveness and adequacy of the organizational structure of Academic Affairs. Given our current fiscal, personnel and enrollment trends) we cannot but wonder if our present structure is the best and most effective of all other possibilities. If through research, we find that it is still the best option for us, we will happily continue to function within the current version. If not, we should be glad that we “had another look” at all the options to choose the best among them and we will reorganize accordingly.

All of those tasks and committee activities will proceed in the spirit of authentic shared governance and will include the inclusion of as many campus voices as is proper and practical.

Please indicate your willingness to serve on this committee and indicate which work appeals to you (creation of new programs or organizational assessment) as soon as possible so that my office can contact you with specific Zoom meeting dates. We then can embark on this work which will have great impact for the present and future of our institution and our people.

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