Dear Leslie Burns – Faculty Senate President:

On June 9, 2010 the Academic Advising Council voted (with one abstention) to endorse (with concerns noted below) both the adoption of the Learning Goals for Graduates and the Other Recommendations in the Bac Core Review Committee report. Our discussion on the topic resulted in the following concerns and recommendations which we would like noted:

Regarding….

“Bac Core/BCLT and Academic Standing Committee to create policies for consequences for student if a first-year student fails to complete the first-year Bac Core Courses during their first-year.”—pg 2 of Appendix

- A general concern that creating consequences for students who do not complete the first-year courses on time seemed punitive.
- We wondered how realistic being able to provide access to these classes for all first-year students is. We understand that we are working toward this goal, but not sure we are ready to have consequences for something we cannot guarantee. Perhaps when we know more about access to courses and classrooms, we can revisit the consequences part if needed.
- If this remains a requirement, who will monitor when students do and do not comply, notify them, and administer the chosen consequence? This would take some resources we may not have now or in the next couple of years.
- Recommend the Implementation Team consider when and if it is feasible to require this part as opposed to leave as part of the culture change to “all first year students take these classes”.

“…Academic Advising Council to coordinate with major programs of study to ensure that students’ schedules have room for first-year Bac Core courses in the first-year.”—pg 2 of Appendix

- Note that AAC members cannot control curriculum. That being said, we will work with faculty when needed toward this end; however, we didn’t think there were many (if any) programs out there that wouldn’t be able to fit these first-year courses into the first year.
- Recommend that the Implementation Team work with the AAC and advisors more than the Recommendations area of the document indicates (AAC appears only once.)

“…University personnel and advisors whose work is in this informal educational system will support student’s accomplishment of the LGGs. The Curriculum Council will work with the Office
A note that support for students may not look the same or even be able to be replicated amongst all our campuses: Corvallis, Cascades, E-campus (e.g. can a student obtain the same services online or in Bend from the EOP or CAMP programs?)

The AAC does look forward to working with the Faculty Senate and Implementation Team in the future regarding these issues.

Sincerely,

Brenda R. Sallee,
Academic Advising Council Chair 2009-10
Head Advisor, College of Business
cc: Vickie Nunnemaker
    John Bailey
    Bill Bogley
    Kim McAlexander