

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 30, 2001

To: Jerrold Pritchard, Associate Vice President
Academic Programs

From: Nancy Rose, Chair
Economics Department

Subject: Response to University Committee Report on the Economics Department Self-Study

In this document, I spell out the Economics Department's responses to the University Committee Report on the Economics Department Self-Study. For each of the four recommendations made by the University Committee, I enumerate the five areas of response.

1. Continued efforts should be made to bridge across college lines to improve cooperative efforts to the College of Business and Public Administration and the College of Education. This may result in a means of collaboration that would increase student enrollment.
 - a. Expected action to be taken. We agree that bridging across lines with these two colleges is necessary, and will likely increase student enrollment. Toward that end, the following steps have begun to be carried out. First, concerning the College of BPA, Jim Charkins has been appointed the department liaison to facilitate connections with students in the Business Economics concentration (under the Business Administration program.) Also, I have been in closer contact with Gordon Patzer, dean of the College of BPA, to facilitate closer ties between the Economics Department and that College. Second, with regard to the College of Education, Jim Charkins has been working with people in that College to develop the B.A in Economics-Social Science Credential Option.
 - b. A specific time line for when the task will be completed. These are ongoing projects; it's not a matter of their being completed.
 - c. Person(s) responsible for carrying out the needed change. Jim Charkins and myself.
 - d. What the anticipated cost will be. There is no monetary cost.
 - e. Where the resources will come from. not applicable
2. Consideration should be given to analyze the work-load of the clerical staff to ensure the support necessary to sustain the program.
 - a. Expected action to be taken. This has already been dealt with, as Mary Schmidt is now serving solely as secretary for the Criminal Justice department, and Pame Jones was hired to serve as secretary for the Economics and Sociology departments.
 - b. A specific time line for when the task will be completed. already done

- c. Person(s) responsible for carrying out the needed change. not applicable
 - d. What the anticipated cost will be. not applicable
 - e. Where the resources will come from.
3. Measures should be taken to explore sources of income to maintain, improve, and/or replace the computer lab. It appears this equipment plays a vital part of the laboratory experience for students and is necessary to maintain quality instruction.
- a. Expected action to be taken. This has also been taken care of, as new computers were purchased a few months ago.
 - b. A specific time line for when the task will be completed. already done
 - c. Person(s) responsible for carrying out the needed change. already done
 - d. What the anticipated cost will be. They were purchased using BATS funds.
 - e. Where the resources will come from. already done
4. A limited intern experience is offered on an elective basis since many students work part-time. It is recommended to consider an alternative for students working full-time.
- a. Expected action to be taken. Although most of the students who have taken Internships in Economics work part-time in addition to attending school, we have had students who work full-time participate as well. In order to do so, and to make the experience meaningful, they have had to very clearly specify how their internship would function as a valid learning experience. Thus it would typically concern a special project that was different than their normal work activities. Internships for both full-time and part-time working students are still being expanded.
 - b. A specific time line for when the task will be completed. This is an ongoing project of the department.
 - c. Person(s) responsible for carrying out the needed change. Tom Pierce and Mayo Toruno have been the ones primarily responsible for this.
 - d. What the anticipated cost will be. There is no cost.
 - e. Where the resources will come from. not applicable