MEMORANDUM

TO: APR Data Review Committee
Sarah Carrigan       Jeff Patton
Kelly Burke          Daniel Perlman
Deborah Kipp         Gary Rosenkrantz
Sevil Sonmez

FROM: David Perrin
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

SUBJECT: Data Definitions

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy summers to help the Director of Institutional Research Sarah Carrigan to refine the definitions of the data to be reviewed as part of the academic program review process. As you probably know, the revised definitions were posted on June 27 on the OPA website for reference by program leadership as they complete their responses to the program and department surveys between now and the August 15 deadline.

I also appreciate the suggestions included in the cover letter accompanying your report regarding the interpretation of the data and its application. I will share your concerns and suggestions with the academic deans whom I have charged to have the same type of discussion with their unit program review committees as the one in which you engaged as part of the Data Definitions Committee. At the meeting of unit program review committee chairs and academic deans scheduled for August 25, I will remind them to engage in substantive discussions on how to interpret the data, the meaning of each item, and whether it is relevant to determining the quality and function or demand of each program in their units.

It is clear that some data have greater meaning for some of the units and programs and less for others. In fact, some of the items you suggest deleting were added at the request of faculty during the campus discussion of the proposed criteria. For this reason, I do not want to make a top-down university-wide decision about which items to include or exclude. I do think, however, that the summary of your concerns included in the cover memo that accompanied your report will be quite useful to the Deans as they lead the discussions in their units and thank you for providing it.

Please do let me know if you have additional suggestions or concerns.

Attachment

c: Deans Council