

October 28, 2005

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Dear Colleagues:

Last fall, I appointed the WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) Accreditation Steering Committee, which was co-chaired by Professors Robin Garrell and Raymond Knapp. The appointment letter is attached for reference. That group has ably done its work in recommending three themes that we might adopt as the core of our upcoming WASC reaccreditation process. Those themes and the outline of the process we would use to pursue them are described in the attached *Draft Institutional Proposal*. Chancellor Carnesale and I agree that these themes are consistent with UCLA's overall goals and offer the opportunity to transform our institutional culture. They involve the delivery of academic programs and student learning, and they will define an important agenda for UCLA.

We now begin a vetting process that will include the Academic Senate and the administration. As part of this process, we would like to obtain your comments and suggestions regarding the chosen themes and how we can best pursue them. There will be two opportunities for feedback. First, I have asked Judi Smith, who has taken on an important leadership role in our accreditation process, to present and engage us in a discussion at our November 9th Deans' Council Meeting. I have also asked Co-Chairs Garrell and Knapp and Accreditation Liaison Officer Lutomirski to join that meeting. Following that, I would like to receive your individual reactions by February 1, 2006 so that we may meet our spring deadline to submit the final Institutional Proposal to WASC. As you vet this document within your unit, please involve your Faculty Executive Committee.

As I indicated in the Committee's appointment letter, we can leverage the WASC accreditation process to achieve positive outcomes for UCLA. Gaining your advice and support for the final Proposal we submit to WASC is an essential part of that outcome.

Sincerely,



Daniel Neuman
Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Enclosures

cc: Chancellor Albert Carnesale
Professor Robin L. Garrell
Professor Raymond L. Knapp
Associate Vice Chancellor Emerita Paula N. Lutomirski