UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

DANIEL
EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR AND

December 17, 2004

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Professor Anthony Seeger, Ethnomusicology

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University Librarian Gary Strong

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for agreeing to serve on the WASC Accreditation Steering Committee, which will be co-chaired by Professors Robin Garrell and Raymond Knapp.

WASC (the Western Association of Schools and Colleges) is the regional organization that provides umbrella accreditation for UCLA as a whole. The first step in the accreditation cycle is the preparation of a document called the "Institutional Proposal," which will provide the roadmap for the work that UCLA will undertake over the course of a multi-year process. Your charge is to develop UCLA's draft Institutional Proposal. A packet containing materials describing the Institutional Proposal and the WASC Guidelines will be delivered in early January.

In the past, accreditation was an onerous process that yielded few, if any, positive outcomes for institutions. Today, however, WASC's new accreditation model allows us to leverage the process to institute change and achieve strategic goals. Thus, the task before you is, effectively, long-range academic planning.

The most important element of the Institutional Proposal will be the identification of a set of topics, probably three, on which UCLA will focus. Each topic should establish objectives that are challenging and feasible, require faculty engagement, and address one or both of WASC's Core Criteria: Institutional Capacity and Educational Effectiveness. We ask that your committee identify topics that will be of greatest long-term value to UCLA. Our expectation is that these topics will extend or begin initiatives that are consistent with UCLA's

goals as a major research university, at the same time offering an opportunity to transform our institutional culture.

As you will see on the enclosed timeline, UCLA must submit the Institutional Proposal to WASC by May 2006. To meet this deadline while ensuring a full campus review by the Academic Senate and the Deans, you will need to produce a final Draft Institutional Proposal by October 2005. The Chancellor and I look forward to working with you to reach a consensus on the topics and action plan you recommend. During the 2005-06 vetting period, your responsibilities will be more limited, but we will look to you to recommend how to resolve any issues or concerns that are raised by the Academic Senate and the administration.

Please do not hesitate to invite me or the Chancellor to join your conversations or to consult with other key leaders at UCLA and elsewhere.

Please accept my gratitude for this important service that will make a difference at UCLA for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Daniel Neuman

Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Enclosure

cc: Chancellor Albert Carnesale
Academic Senate Chair Kathleen Komar
Vice Chancellor Claudia Mitchell-Kernan
Vice Chancellor Steven A. Olsen
Vice Chancellor Roberto Peccei
Vice Chancellor Donna L. Vredevoe
Council of Deans
Executive Committee