

From: Michael Wylly

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 3:21 PM

To: Ferdinanda Florence <Ferdinanda.Florence@solano.edu>; David Williams <David.Williams@solano.edu>; Marianne Flatland <Marianne.Flatland@solano.edu>; Danielle Widemann <Danielle.Widemann@solano.edu>; Curtiss Brown <Curtiss.Brown@solano.edu>

Cc: LaNae Jaimez <LaNae.Jaimez@solano.edu>; Celia Esposito-Noy <Celia.Esposito-Noy@solano.edu>; Melissa Reeve <Melissa.Reeve@solano.edu>; Saki Cabrera <Saki.Cabrera@solano.edu>; Amy Obegi <Amy.Obegi@solano.edu>

Subject: Taskforce to Explore University Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, and General Sciences degrees

Ferd, David, Danielle, Marianne and Curtiss—

Good afternoon, and Happy Thursday!

I would like to thank each of you for agreeing to serve on this task force. The need for this task force has arisen in multiple arenas, including program review, assessment, the office of academic affairs and curriculum.

As a result of our latest conversation at senate—which served as the catalyst for the creation of this task force—the charge of this task force is: **to recommend what actions/changes are needed in the University Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, and General Sciences degrees, and what philosophy should guide these recommended changes; to communicate these recommendations to the senate or its subcommittees.**

Key factors related to this charge include:

1. University Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies degrees include courses no longer offered at SCC, and are presently out of date.
2. Faculty have been asked to examine both degrees to weed out courses, but this opens larger questions about what should these degrees include, and why. Without this guidance, faculty may opt to trim minimally or cut degrees entirely, perhaps with unintended consequences.
3. These programs have not been substantively revisited since the implementation of AD-T degrees, so a broader discussion of each degree's function is timely.

Members of this task force should plan to meet regularly for the spring semester. Should the work of this committee require additional time, we can work together to adjust the calendar and committee membership to accommodate the recommendations of this task force.

Unless you think there is a better reporting mechanism, my suggestion is to schedule regular reports to the senate through Ferd as APR Coordinator.

As a reminder, procedural recommendations would need the approval of the senate to be enacted. In contrast, recommendations pursuant to the charges of existing subcommittees can be brought to those respective bodies for their respective consideration(s).

Thanks!

Michael

