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To: Members of the College of Education

From: David H. Monk

Re.: Update #2 on our Progress in Response to the Core Council Recommendations

We continue to make progress in a number of areas, and I have organized this update around particular topics. As always, comments are welcome.

1. Teaching Workload Review—We have completed a review of teaching assignments for all faculty within the College. The overarching conclusion is that the faculty is fully and admirably engaged in the teaching mission of the College. The individual instances where a workload appears to be incomplete will be handled on a case by case basis by the relevant Department Head in consultation with the Dean's Office.
2. Formation of a Merger Committee—Drs. Jacqueline Edmondson, Brandon Hunt, Stephanie Knight, David McNaughton, and Spencer Niles (chair) have graciously agreed to serve on a committee to provide guidance about the merger of the two departments in CEDAR Building. I have asked the committee to focus initially on three items: (1) a name for the new department; 2) a report that needs to be submitted to the Senate Council; and 3) a set of promotion and tenure guidelines. We have two faculty members from one of the merging departments whose 6th year reviews will be conducted during 2011-2012. We have reached an understanding with the Provost that the existing guidelines for these two cases will be followed as if the merger has not happened. Any future reviews will be handled by the new department under the guidelines that will be developed.
3. Staffing Model—We have already made progress toward implementing the new staffing model and have moved from a count of 31 College-supported staff members to 28. I continue to believe we can achieve the new goal through naturally occurring attrition, although it may be necessary to move some individuals to new positions as openings become available. Savings will also be coming from faculty positions as we make further refinements in our offerings.
4. Oversight of Graduate Programs—We are reviewing the role of Professors-in-Charge (PIC) within the College. We currently employ two models. The first model exists within C&I and involves a Graduate Program Coordinator who works closely with a Lead

Faculty Member for each emphasis area. As you may be aware, C&I offers one relatively large graduate program with numerous emphasis areas. The second model can be found in the other four departments and involves a separate PIC for each graduate program. If we move toward the single Graduate Program Coordinator/Lead Faculty Member model for each department, it appears we could realize savings and streamline operations. We are exploring the implications of making a change along these lines and recognize a need to clarify what the new roles would entail.

5. Center for the Study of Higher Education—New guidelines will be in place beginning July 1, 2011 that address the interface between the Center and the Department of Education Policy Studies. According to the new guidelines, faculty members in the Center will become more directly involved in helping the Department meet its teaching obligations, depending on the level of grant activity within the Center. The new guidelines also make it possible for faculty members throughout the College and University with research interests in higher education to become affiliated with the Center.

6. Degree Option Closures—We are in the process of requesting the closure of the following degree options: M.S. in Counselor Education; D.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction; M.S. in Educational Leadership; D. Ed. In Workforce Education; D.Ed. in Instructional Systems; and the M.S. in Instructional Systems. These are all quite small (and in some cases phantom) degree options with readily straightforward alternatives for students.

7. Re-DAT Report—The Re-Design Advisory Team (Drs. DiPerna, Edmondson (chair), Greenberg, Niles, Skowron, and Suen) has submitted its report and I am in the process of reviewing the options the Team identified. I expect to make a decision about the best option for the College to pursue within the next week. I will be posting my decision along with the report from the Re-Design Advisory Team early next week.

Please note that the Faculty Council will be meeting on December 16th at 2:30 in 221 Chambers. There will be an opportunity at that time to discuss the status of our progress. Comments are welcome then and can also be submitted at any time.

I hope the conclusion of the semester goes smoothly and that you enjoy the upcoming holidays and break.

P.S. A complete record of the various documents that are relevant to the Core Council's recommendations can be found at:

<http://www.ed.psu.edu/educ/for-current-faculty-and-staff/college-response-to-core-council>

xc.: L. Sandmeyer