

July 18, 2008

ROBERT CANCEL
Literature
0410

Dr. Cancel and the Diversity Council:

Thank you for your suggestions provided in your April 17, 2008 letter. I would like to address your concerns and suggestions in the order presented.

Creation of a regional council of the chief officers of San Diego region higher education institutions, including community colleges and university

Although I meet with my San Diego colleagues in various venues throughout the year, I do not believe we have ever come together in one location to share information and discuss strategic partnering for the good of the San Diego region. I will pursue with my colleagues whether it would be feasible for us to meet annually to identify key common issues and challenges in San Diego region higher education, and then facilitate meetings of our respective campus designees to work collaboratively in developing and supporting campus-specific implementation of strategies to address these common issues and challenges.

Thorough evaluation of mechanisms by which transfer students are directed/advised to qualify for UC, and in particular UC San Diego, admission

Our system allows prospective transfer students to select transfer programs that they believe best serve their needs and personal circumstances. While the Transfer Admissions Guarantee (TAG) Program and the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) have demonstrated a measure of success in supporting students as they matriculate to four-year institutions, their success isn't as compelling as the information you've presented about UniversityLink and the complementary Summer Experience Program. Since UniversityLink between our campus and selected community colleges is more under our control than the other transfer activities, I believe that our attention should be focused on it. Ideally, all transfer students who qualify would seek the personal attention and resources that correspond to the success rate of UniversityLink, but as with many programs, personal attention and resources are limited. I welcome more discussion and advice on possible strategies that could be used to expand the UniversityLink activity and complementary summer program to more transfer students, and in particular those who are pursuing science, technology, engineering and mathematics majors at our campus.

MAF/Christopher/JTM

Sharing of data across campus offices that relate to diversity at all level of the campus.

We have an opportunity to take a comprehensive look at how our campus is doing with respect to diversity when we prepare and submit the UC Study on University Diversity Update later this year. This update will require specific information on progress for undergraduate students, graduate and professional students, faculty, staff and climate issues. Prior to submitting this report to the UC Office of the President, our campus will participate in the collation of information that will be used to address questions posed by the Study Group on University Diversity Campus Implementation Team. Our campus will use this document to integrate past and present data and inform our future campus diversity efforts, and the historical information you note should create a better understanding of the nature of our challenges. Not only will we be able to assess our progress, but we can begin to make comparisons across the system, and learn from our sister campuses who may be achieving better results in some areas.

Robert, I want to thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Diversity Council and for your ongoing leadership as we work to address the vital issue of diversity at UC San Diego.

With warm regards,



Marye Anne Fox
Chancellor

cc: SVCAA
Vice Chancellors