

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

College of Social Sciences

Women's Studies Program

April 2, 2009

To: Klaus Keil, Chair
Manoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee
University of Hawaii at Manoa

From: Susan Hippensteele, Chair
Committee on Academic Planning and Policy (CAPP)

RE: **2008-2009 Outstanding CAPP Action Item Summary**

CAPP has concluded its meeting schedule for the 2008-2009 academic year and closes with the following recommendations for action items to be addressed by SEC or forwarded to 2009-2010 standing committees.

eCafe

CAPP has engaged in numerous substantive discussions of issues resulting from the recent effort by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, through its Office for Faculty Development and Academic Support/Center for Instructional Support, to immediately transition from the paper version of Café to eCafe. There is unanimous sentiment on the committee that Café should not be eliminated in favor of eCafe until eCafe is shown to have a comparable return rate to Café and data access and ownership issues have been fully resolved. In sum, our concerns are:

1. The current response rate is much lower for eCafe than for Café, suggesting problems of non-representative participation and resulting selection bias;
2. Selection bias in course evaluation completion limits the usefulness of these data for course modification purposes as faculty anticipate a "RateMyProfessor" effect (i.e., faculty "fans" and "foes" may be most likely to participate in the online course evaluation option);
3. Faculty seeking tenure and promotion, as well as renewable instructional personnel, rely on course evaluations as evidence for continued employment and will be differentially impacted by a system that does not provide representative participation and reliably high return rates;
4. Accessibility and "ownership" of eCafe evaluation data remain unclarified and numerous questions pertaining to who will have access the data, how and under what circumstances their use might be subject to modification from the Café system, continue to be discussed without resolution.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

College of Social Sciences

Women's Studies Program

CAPP recommends eCafe be assigned to a Task Force working group that includes members from CAPP, the Committee on Professional Matters, and the new standing committee on Assessment.

Enrollment Planning/Management

During Summer 2008, discussions initiated by the Vice Chancellor for Students and involving CAPP resulted in a plan for an enrollment planning/management committee. Two CAPP members were identified as willing to serve on the committee which does not appear to have been formed.

As enrollment planning and management are important ongoing issues, CAPP recommends that this issue be taken up next year in committee and/or that SEC pursue the formation of an enrollment planning/management committee during Summer 2009.

Admissions

April 2006 CAPP minutes reflect efforts of that committee to address admissions standards at Manoa. The proposal to recommend a Senate standing committee on Admissions rather than a CAPP subcommittee was tabled at that time. The issue was briefly reconsidered by CAPP in Fall 2007 but pending personnel decisions (as originally reflected in the April 2006 minutes) remained in play.

CAPP recommends that SEC revisit this issue and/or refer it to CAPP for study and recommendations in Fall 2009.

Interaction with VCAA

CAPP, along with the entire campus, suffered the lack of consistent leadership in the Office of the VCAA. With the hire of a permanent VCAA, CAPP recommends that the 2009-2010 committee incorporate time with the VCAA into each regularly scheduled meeting of the committee.

Role of the Committee

Several current members of CAPP have served two or more consecutive terms on the committee and have reflected on the differences between a committee that is "reactive" insofar as it addresses only issues referred by SEC and a committee that is "proactive" and responds to charge appropriate constituency concerns. We suggest that the 2009-2010 (and future CAPP committees) discuss the implications of both approaches and determine whether it intends to be reactive or proactive.