

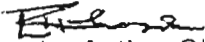
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cc: L. Pagotto
C. Fuchino-Nishida

September 22, 2005

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Harry Davis, Faculty Senate Chair, and Susan Inouye, Faculty Senate Vice Chair

FROM:  Leon Richards, Acting Chancellor

SUBJECT: Curriculum Redesign Proposal

Please permit me to respond to Faculty Senate's May 3, 2005 Curriculum Redesign Proposal. During former Chancellor Morton's tenure with us, he and I had a detailed discussion on this proposal.

First, let me express my thanks and appreciation to Chair Sheryl Fuchino-Nishida and her ad hoc committee members who worked very hard and diligently to re-examine the curriculum process here at KCC.

While I concur with most of the findings and recommendations of this committee, I strongly believe:

- that the Faculty Senate, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Chancellor should remain as the final reviewing and approving entities for all curricular actions. Accreditation essentials and guidelines, along with Functional Statements and responsibilities of the Chancellor's and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs' require that these offices play a key role in curriculum and academic development.
- that the certificates of competence be subjected to the current curriculum review process. While I agree in theory with this, the needs of the departments to respond to rapid and emerging employment requests should not be compromised. The Curriculum Redesign Task Force should work with department chairs and deans to develop an alternative in which there is curriculum committee oversight coupled with the needs of departments to "do rapid response" to employment demands of business and industry.
- that in the review of curriculum proposals, the department chair and program dean should work as a team before curriculum proposals are submitted to the Curriculum Committee.

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These are some of the concerns I have but I do encourage and support this ad hoc committee to continue its efforts to review, reform and revolutionize the current cumbersome review process.