



Memorial

University of Newfoundland

Office of the Vice-President (Academic)
and Pro Vice-Chancellor

CIAP

23 April 2007

APR 24 2007

Dr. Mary Bluehardt
Director, School of Human Kinetics and Recreation
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Dear Dr. Bluehardt: *Mary*

The Planning and Budget Committee of Senate considered the self-study, review panel report, departmental response, and final action plan that resulted from the Academic Program Review for the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation at its 14 March 2007 meeting. The PBC wishes to express its appreciation to the School for its participation in the APR process and for undertaking the work that this process requires.

The primary purpose of formal academic program reviews is to give units of the University an opportunity to engage in formative self-assessment and to obtain the advantages of commentary and advice from experts from the discipline in question. The role of PBC is to monitor the process and develop a body of knowledge that is useful in making broad strategic recommendations and providing sound budgetary advice to the University. It is not the role of the Committee to determine allocations to individual units, but we can sometimes offer advice or make potentially useful observations.

An anticipated outcome of the process is a plan that clarifies how best to achieve the School's objectives with the resources available to it. From the standpoint of the University, the process also provides a measure of accountability to the whole institution and the public that supports us.

During the course of discussion the committee noted the following points:

- There was concern that the unit appears to be taking on too much with too few resources. It is a big challenge for a relatively small unit to continue to grow in light of few new appointments. The committee encourages the unit to adequately assess faculty loads, graduate students teaching undergraduate courses, and training for graduate students to teach courses in its plans for growth, particularly of increased graduate student enrolment.

- The committee encourages the School to continue working to build a strong and effective relationship with The Works so that compromises can be found regarding resource issues and infrastructure conflicts. The issue of co-mingling academic activity with physical activity is challenging and the committee would like to urge the unit to proceed carefully in reviewing scheduling policies and procedures. The committee expressed optimism that past issues will be resolved in the near future.
- The committee noted that the school intends to engage in discussions with the Faculty of Education regarding conjoint/collaboration on the Bachelor of Education after Degree program with recommendations to come in April 2007. It was also noted that there is a plan to cooperate with the Faculty of Education and School of Graduate Studies to create a more coherent set of course offerings in the Fall of 2007. The committee recommends more integration of these initiatives and/or more liaising earlier on in the process.

Overall, the committee was pleased to see the connection between the University's Strategic Plan in the unit's action plan. The School of Human Kinetics and Recreation is to be commended for its dedication to teaching and growing its research programs.

I offer my support and that of the committee as you begin the important work outlined in your action plan and the points noted above. We look forward to seeing your one-year update in March 2008.

Sincerely yours,



H. E. A. Campbell
Vice-President (Academic)

- c. Dr. M. Collins, Dean of Record
Mr. Paul Chancey, CIAP