

Office of the Provost

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OCT 0 7 2003 Email: provost

October 3, 2003

Dr. Jeff Dembo University Senate 153 Bowman Hall CAMPUS 0059

Dear Dr. Dembo:

During the past year, two committees appointed by the Provost have made recommendations concerning University Extension. The Provost's Committee on the Design of an Academic Support and Technology Center recommended elimination of the offices in University Extension and transfer of the functions to related units. The Periodic External Review Team report recommended that University Extension should continue to be organized as a distinct unit and efforts should be undertaken to clarify the relationship of extension-like activities already in existence and to improve coordination of these activities across the University.

After considerable deliberation, I have decided to maintain University Extension as an organizational unit. In addition, I plan to centralize all credit academic outreach courses and programs under University Extension. Under this plan, Dr. Phil Greasley will report directly to Dr. Philipp Kraemer, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education. University Extension will include Distance Learning Programs, Evening and Weekend College, the Independent Study Program, the Japanese Saturday School, Japanese Programs, and Summer School. It will also continue to administer the UK – Central High Magnet Career Academy Partnership. This will create a convenient one-stop course and service center with extended hours for UK students and the community. It should increase operating efficiency and support the academic outreach efforts of UK colleges.

Placement of University Extension in the University's Enrollment Management group further integrates dissemination of information and services. In this configuration, University Extension will work closely with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Registrar, the Teaching and Academic Support Center, the Central Advising and Transfer Center, Student Financial Aid, Student Billing Services, Undergraduate Studies, the Robinson Scholars Program, the Gaines Center, and the Honors Program.

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I expect University Extension to continue its record of strong performance while working collaboratively with other University units to increase economy and efficiency and to expand programming and services. I wanted to share this plan with the Scnate Council before announcing it more broadly, which I intend to do in the next week or so. If the Senate Council has any questions concerning this change in reporting structure, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Nietzel

Provost

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