

MEMO

To: Provost Stephen Scheck and Dr. Susanne Monahan
From: Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Date: February 24, 2017
Re: Program review and self-study schedule and process

Questions to address per Faculty Senate requests for information

1. Please provide specific references to the external policies or guidelines that require WOU to do programmatic self-study. In particular, please provide references for the underlined portions of the draft policy note here:

DRAFT-Program-review-policy-2-9-17.pdf

Rationale: ...While required by NWCCU, academic program review is, first and foremost, for the benefit of WOU programs and the students we serve, ensuring that we engage in systematic inquiry into the effectiveness of our academic programs and use findings to improve.

Scope: Academic programs include majors, minors, certificates and all general education options at the graduate and undergraduate levels as well as academic support services

2. Please present a simple timeline for the program review process, including:
 - a. Will these be department or division self-studies? Can there be a choice - that is, for division with smaller departments, can they choose to do a division self-study rather than each department?
 - b. What is the seven year rotation schedule? Who sets this schedule and when will this schedule be published?
3. How does the posted self-study document align with providing evidence of WOU's abilities to address NWCCU standards? Where is this alignment posted for faculty review?
4. Since this is a new faculty policy, per the WOU Policy Council, it should be "vetted in the usual way" before inclusion in our Faculty Handbook.

We realize that we are not voting on "should there be program review" but rather on the specific language and process that we include, as WOU policy, in the Faculty Handbook.

We would like to make sure what goes in the handbook aligns with our NWCCU accreditation requirements and also addresses our institutional priorities.