

Subject:Comments on GE proposal

Date:Thu, 30 Oct 2008 11:13:56 -0700

Dear Colleagues:

I attended the session yesterday and listened closely to most of what went on. What I fear is that you tried to design a Lexus (very fancy) instead of a Camry (nice, but more basic), and that we will end up with a Ford Pinto (rejection of your effort).

As things stand now, there seem to me to be two very serious issues:
1. The new structure is not very transparent or straightforward. In striving to be broad and inclusive, which I admire, you may have become somewhat opaque and too complicated.

2. You are, in effect, asking for the faculty to design and offer new courses that fit the new rubrics (most existing courses will probably not fit well) and are not necessarily central to our individual "missions" in our departments, at a time when we are short of time, money, and teaching support.

I am sure you have thought about both of these points, as well as many others, but consider, too, what may happen when you present this to the Academic Senate. The last thing to be desired is another defeat on a GE proposal.

Yours,

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