In this Newsletter

- Campus Information Sessions Nov. 16
- Accreditation: Priority One
- New Faculty Recognition Web Site
- Vice President of Diversity Position
- Update on Block Scheduling & Semesters
- Coach’s Corner: EWU Hockey

Provost Postings

An e-newsletter published monthly by the Provost for the faculty of Eastern Washington University. Your comments are welcome at provostplanning@mail.ewu.edu. Learn more at http://www.ewu.edu/provost

Campus Information Sessions Rescheduled for Nov. 16

How do we sustain our enrollment? What will be our priority programs? In a world of finite resources, how do we decide what to fund? These are the questions we are asking as we continue our strategic planning efforts—and your input is important to the answers we create.

Learn more and share your ideas at two Campus Information Sessions on Tuesday, Nov. 16. The first is 9-10 a.m. at Riverpoint Health Sciences Bldg., Room 110A. The second is from 1-2 p.m. in 205 PUB. I will join the vice presidents and Faculty Organization president to discuss the White Paper report that outlines our current environment. You can download the White Paper—as well as additional background reports—from www.ewu.edu/strategicplanning.

Beginning Nov. 17, faculty will participate in work groups to develop strategies for our plan for growth, capacity and resources. Watch the Web site for regular updates. You can also comment directly at provostplanning@mail.ewu.edu.

Accreditation: Priority One

“I like deadlines,” Douglas Adams is reported to have said. “I especially like the whooshing sound they make as they go flying by.” That “whooshing” sound you heard Nov. 1 was the first deadline in EWU’s four-phase, 18-month accreditation self-study process. Unfortunately, too many Eastern departments let the deadline pass, imperiling our ability to provide timely information for the next steps in the process on our way to the site visit by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities in April 2006.

2006 may seem a like a long way off, but we have a lot of work to accomplish before the visit. An accreditation steering committee has been working since 2002 to prepare our University, and it has done an admirable job of aligning our accreditation process with our strategic plan. Now it is time for all departments to make accreditation a priority. Those who have involved faculty in completing the first part of the self-study report it has been a useful exercise. I encourage all departments to complete phase one quickly and continue on the remaining self-study sections, due Dec. 1, Feb. 1 and March 1.

To learn more about our accreditation process, see www.ewu.edu/x2100.xml
New Faculty Recognition Web Site Launched

Eastern faculty truly are exceptional and now we have a new Web site to celebrate that fact. Stop by the Provost’s Home Page at www.ewu.edu/provost and click on “Recognizing Faculty Excellence.” You’ll learn about the teaching, research, performance and service achievements of your fellow colleagues—from articles published and grants received to national accolades and special awards.

Information is updated monthly, so check back often and submit your own or a colleague’s accomplishments. Contact Lisa Poplawski at 359-4323 or lpoplawski@mail.ewu.edu.

Recruitment for Assistant Vice President of Diversity Begins

Ads have appeared in The Chronicle of Higher Education as well as on the Web announcing EWU’s search for a new Assistant Vice President of Diversity position. The successful candidate, who will report to the provost, will help create a Center for Campus Diversity and develop programs that integrate diversity into EWU’s curriculum, community engagement, campus culture, and faculty and staff recruitment and development.

This position has been formed out of the previous affirmative action role to reflect the need to separate formal and legal reporting and compliance from proactive engagement in encouraging diversity, particularly in relation to instruction, curriculum and creating a diverse community environment. Learn more about the position from Human Resources or contact Lori Kory at 359-6931.

Block Scheduling—Not Yet Ready for Prime Time

Last fall the Enrollment Management Task Force and Faculty Senate asked department chairs and program directors to create both a block schedule and traditional schedule. This useful exercise uncovered some practical implementation concerns that included the challenges of dealing with varying class ending times, fewer schedule patterns and conflicts with one-credit courses.

At the same time, new campus initiatives—including the new Student Information System and our General Education Review—will impact decisions about block scheduling. As a result, we are waiting to integrate our recommendations for block scheduling with these initiatives, and we will be reporting full details to the campus community later in the academic year.

Continued on page 3
Meanwhile, the *ad hoc* Joint Task Force involving EWU, SFCC and SCC has submitted its analysis of the pros and cons of semesters versus quarters to President Stephen Jordan and Chancellor Gary Livingston for their review and further action.

**Coach’s Corner**

On a personal note, few things are more satisfying for me than working with EWU students as assistant coach of our club hockey team. I encourage you to support all our student activities, and also to come watch Eastern play the University of Colorado, 2003 ACHA National Champions, at the Spokane Arena at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13.

For a full Eastern hockey schedule, see www.asisna.com/easternhockey.