

- **Appreciation to Dean Mark Girod, Ella Taylor and their staff:** Earlier this fall, Mark became aware of an opportunity to pursue the Mexican Consulate for scholarship dollars—with a little hustle to get the application in within a few days...WOU will receive \$10,000 from the Mexican government to provide scholarships to DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) students this academic year.
- **Updates** – a number of updates:

- **Advisee holds have been placed on student accounts.** Alex Kunkle in academic advising sent out a general notice to faculty/staff, yesterday, that students have been emailed about scheduling advising appointments. A 15-second promotion by faculty in their classrooms can have significant impact on motivating students to engage in the advising process. Registration for winter term will open Monday, Nov. 14th. The schedule will be available online by Monday, Oct. 31st.
- **Consideration of simplifying scheduling/calendaring and demonstrating interdisciplinary educational opportunities.** I ask the faculty to examine whether we need cross-listed courses to serve multiple majors, or simply to have a home department offer a course and other degree programs list the course in DegreeWorks as a course that counts toward the major.

Also, along these lines...

- **As we recruit new faculty or evaluate the teaching roles of current faculty...**to recognize that departmental – program lines are self-imposed. Students are interested in course and program content...not what accounting budget the course is charged to.
- **Course, program learning outcomes alignment work** – My appreciation for the academic units who have been submitting program alignment evidence to one or more of the six undergraduate learning outcomes (ULOs) that were condensed from the 16 AAC&U LEAP outcomes. The assessment web site (<http://www.wou.edu/cai/initiatives/assessment>) is designed so that you can readily submit the essential information for all major and certificate programs.

The graduate affairs committee also has a link at this web site for campus-wide graduate learning outcomes (focusing on writing this year).

- **Faculty/Staff Incentive Program for Grant Writing** – Shortly, the Sponsored Research Office in The Research Institute will be issuing guidelines for a grant writing incentive program. Faculty and staff may be eligible for a \$1,000 professional development award in recognition of the effort invested into the grant proposal.
- **Closing comment – sibling enrollment:** I was delighted to run into a number of tailgating families last Saturday at the homecoming football game who had a student currently at WOU and one in high school considering WOU – most of these students were wearing WOU apparel. Reminder: Admissions Fall Preview Day is November 5th.