March 23, 2017

To: Academic Senate

Fr: Ed Barbanell, Ph.D.
        Chair, Senate Advisory Committee on Academic Policy (SACAP)

RE: 2016-17 SACAP Committee Activity Report

SACAP had one face-to-face meeting in February and one 'virtual' meeting/dialogue in early March. The February meeting concerned a new Policy, 6-500 (Curriculum Management and Administration), that had been developed by the Curriculum Policy Review Board. 6-500 is mostly concerned with ensconcing in policy long-standing and well-established practices, though two parts of it sought to establish in policy relatively new practices for approving online programs and identifying "dormant" programs. The Committee endorsed the new Policy.

The virtual meeting concerned a proposal, initiated by the student government, to modify Policy 6-100, to require that essential course information about learning objectives and the dates/nature of the major assessment mechanisms be promulgated to students at least a week before the semester begins.   The Committee endorsed this policy change, but recommended that a set of implementation guidelines, or best practices, be developed and widely distributed to faculty, so that there is consistency and reliability in how this information is presented.