



OFFICE OF THE DEAN

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA  
College of Human Environmental Sciences

COPY

October 5, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: Academic Affairs Committee  
Faculty Senate

FROM: Judy Bonner *JB*  
Dean, College of Human Environmental Sciences

John Dolly *JD*  
Dean, College of Education

In response to your memo, we are providing the following information as clarification to your questions.

1. Has the sum of money that will be transferred to the College of Education from Health Studies' Distance Education line been agreed upon and allocated? Will all of the start-up costs associated with Education's Distance Education masters program be covered by the reimbursed amount? Is there in place a contingency plan for additional funding in the event of a shortfall?

The College of Education provided the faculty in Health Studies \$60,000 up front to use to develop the distance education program in Health. There is currently \$60,000 in the Health Studies' Distance Education line and that funding will be used to repay the College of Education. There is no contingency plan for additional funding in the event of a shortfall.

2. Have the reimbursement process and its rationale been clarified for those staff at the operational level who will actually be responsible for carrying out the transfer?

A reimbursement process is not needed. The Health Studies' Distance Education line is currently in the College of Education. Dean John Dolly has always been the responsible administrator for the account. Naturally, he will continue to be the responsible administrator.

3. Has consideration been given to a long-range plan to protect HS/AT faculty lines and staff positions as vacancies inevitably occur?

Health Studies and Athletic Training have strong academic programs and enjoy national recognition for the caliber of these programs. Further, the faculty are productive scholars. As academic dean, Judy Bonner intends to do everything she can to support these programs, keep them strong, and foster continued growth and innovation.

Protecting faculty and staff lines is a priority for the College of Human Environmental Sciences. Our strategy to protect faculty and staff lines is to keep our academic programs strong and viable. Every academic program is in need of additional faculty and staff lines. No academic program can afford to give up faculty or staff lines. In 1992, the faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences reduced the number of academic programs from 12 to 8 thus eliminating programs that were not viable.

4. Will budgeting and reconciling expenditures be made retroactive to October 1?

As academic deans, we are requesting that the transfer be approved retroactive to October 1 in order to facilitate the budgeting process. It is cleaner to have the fiscal year in one academic division rather than 1/12 in one academic division and 11/12's in another academic division.

5. Will the mechanism for annual evaluation of faculty, as separate from promotion and tenure, be congruent with CHES practices retroactive to October 1? Will "grandfathering" of students be necessary for any reason?

The Health Studies and Athletic Training faculty will come under the guidelines for annual evaluation of faculty as soon as the move is approved. Judy Bonner will work with the faculty in Health Studies and Athletic Training to ensure a smooth transition. Since the faculty in Health Studies and Athletic Training are productive scholars and excellent teachers, she does not anticipate problems in this area.

We can think of no reason why "grandfathering" of students will be necessary. They will continue to follow the degree requirements in the catalog they are under. The degree requirements will not change. The College of Human Environmental Sciences strives to be an academic division that is "student focused". We will make every effort to ensure a smooth transition for the students in Health Studies and Athletic Training.

6. Will centrality to the mission of the University continue to be a sticking point for HS/AT after the administrative transfer? Is ACHE viability in question?

"Centrality of mission" was an issue within the College of Education - not within The University of Alabama. The mission of the College of Education is to provide high quality teacher education programs. The programs offered by Health Studies and Athletic Training are not "teacher education" programs and, consequently, are not central to the mission of the College of Education.

The mission of the College of Human Environmental Sciences is to provide high quality professional programs that relate in one way or another to improving the quality of life for individuals and families. The academic programs in Health Studies and Athletic Training fit nicely with HES's mission.

The academic programs offered by Health Studies and Athletic Training include:

B.S. Degree in Health Studies

B.S. Degree in Athletic Training / Sports Medicine

M.S. Degree in Health Studies

Ph.D. in Health Promotion (offered jointly with UAB)

The only program for which ACHE viability is an issue is the B.S. Degree in Health Studies. The faculty in Health Studies believe that most positions for Health Studies graduates require at least the M.S. Degree. Consequently, they have indicated that they would like to close the undergraduate degree program in Health Studies and concentrate their energies at the graduate level. However, they have also expressed a willingness to review the curriculum with colleagues in HES to see if other interdisciplinary options might exist which would make the program viable.