Ad Hoc Committee on Course Evaluations

Whereas

- in the Report of the WASC Visiting Team Educational Effectiveness Review, May 2007, it was stated that "course evaluation forms used by the Schools varied greatly and in general did not engage students in assessing their learning with respect to the objectives of the course" (p. 22) and "We encourage the faculty in the Schools, CAP and the administration to engage in serious consideration of how the evaluation of teaching effectiveness will be related to the stated program goals for student learning." (p.40)
- in UC Merced's Capacity and Prepatory Report, July 2009, it was proposed that "Before the Educational Effectiveness report is submitted in Fall 2010, the University will have established a uniform set of questions about teaching and learning that will appear in all student-course questionnaires. The University's assessment procedures will ensure that students evaluate learning outcomes as part of course evaluations."

Divisional Council establishes an ad hoc committee on course evaluations. This committee will be charged with the following:

- Investigating methods of good practice for student evaluation of learning outcomes as part of course evaluations.
- Reviewing current school course evaluations.
- Obtaining draft questions from each school during Spring 2010, reviewing these questions, and ensuring that they meet the campus's criteria and standards.
- Developing minimum criteria and standards for questions that allow student evaluation of learning outcomes by April 2010.
- Reporting on its recommendation to Divisional Council.

Committee Composition (three faculty, one from each school)

- A member of Divisional Council (chair)
- A member of Undergraduate Council
- A member of Graduate and Research Council
- As a non-voting consultant, a member of the Senate-Administrative Council for Assessment (SACA)

Timeline

The committee will complete its work during Spring 2010 and dissolve at the end of the semester.

DRAFT