January 26, 2017

Farrell Ackerman (Vice Chair, Academic Senate) **Co-Chair**
Lera Boroditsky (Associate Professor, Cognitive Science)
Robert Clossin (Director, Physical & Community Planning) **Consultant**
Mark Cunningham (Assistant Vice Chancellor, Housing, Dining & Hospitality) **Consultant**
Matthew Herbst (Associate Teaching Professor and Director, MMW/ERC Writing Program)
William Hodgkiss (Sr. Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Planning and Resources)
John Moore (Provost, Muir College)
Robert Pomeroy (Teaching Professor, Chemistry-Biochemistry)
Barbara Sawrey (Associate Vice Chancellor/Dean-Undergraduate Education) **Co-Chair**
Steve Ross (Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs Resource Administration)

**SUBJECT:** Seventh College Planning Task Force

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for your commitment to serve as members of the Seventh College Planning Task Force. In accordance with Academic Senate policies regarding academic planning for new colleges, this is a joint Senate and Administration committee, which will be co-chaired by Barbara Sawrey, Associate Vice Chancellor/Dean-Undergraduate Education and Farrell Ackerman, Vice Chair of the San Diego Division of the Academic Senate.

The challenge for the campus is to balance the need for speed in creating a new college to meet enrollment pressures with a desire for a thoughtful and inclusive consideration of the college’s academic and thematic plan. As a result, we are asking this task force to focus on answering core questions necessary for launching the college. First, in order to begin securing system-wide approvals expeditiously we ask this Task Force to reach a determination on whether there is a pressing need for creation of a Seventh College. Second, we ask this task force to lay out a preliminary set of questions and considerations about the college’s focus and objectives that should be addressed in the next three stages of work (described below). This preliminary work will help inform the appointment of a new College Provost, at the appropriate time. Third, we ask the Task Force to offer initial guidance on a physical plan of the college in the context of the overall campus building program.

The blueprint put forth by the Seventh College Planning Task Force in this initial stage of planning will guide the following three stages in the academic planning process – the search for and appointment of a founding provost; the development of the detailed academic plan for the college curriculum, led by the founding provost who will convene open forums and targeted meetings, and invite input from across all stakeholder groups on campus; and the pre-planning for an Eighth and possibly Ninth College to follow in short order, given our increasing enrollment projections.
We envision Seventh College accepting its first students to begin their study on campus in Fall 2020. We therefore request that the Task Force submit its report by April 1, 2017 so that the required review by Academic Senate Committees can be initiated shortly thereafter. To assist the Task Force’s deliberation, attached is a compendium of documents that lay out the current issues to be considered, some historic deliberations, and a reminder of Academic Senate guidelines for approval of new colleges.

Thank you for your willingness to take on this important work.

Best regards,

Peter F. Cowhey
Interim Executive Vice Chancellor

Kaustuv Roy
Chair, Academic Senate

cc: Associate Director Lori Hullings
Assistant Dean Kathleen Johnson