

December 8, 2008

WASC Capacity and Preparatory Review Report

Introduction

As the first step in the reaffirmation of accreditation process, UCSF submitted an Institutional Proposal to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in May 2007. The WASC Proposal Review Committee approved the Institutional Proposal in July 2007. The UCSF Strategic Plan, completed just after the Institutional Proposal was submitted to WASC (June 2007), includes within its priorities many of the actions proposed in the Institutional Proposal.

Using the Institutional Proposal as a guide for our efforts, UCSF now presents the Capacity and Preparatory Review (CPR) Report for review by WASC. This report was completed by the WASC Accreditation Steering Committee, which was appointed by the Chancellor and includes administrators, faculty, staff, and students. It has been reviewed and is endorsed by appropriate faculty, staff, and student groups across the campus (Criteria for Review (CFR) 4.1).

The CPR report will demonstrate that UCSF:

- (1) functions with clear purposes, high levels of institutional integrity, fiscal stability, and organizational structures to fulfill its purposes (WASC Core Commitment to Institutional Capacity); and
- (2) is prepared to fulfill its obligations for the WASC Educational Effectiveness Review.

UCSF has prepared for the February 2009 site visit by completing the CPR report, which includes reflective essays on the three themes presented in the Institutional Proposal. These themes are Learning Environment, Learning Outcomes, and Diversity. The report also includes a concluding essay focused on our approach to the Educational Effectiveness Review.

In November 2008, UCSF launched a comprehensive web site that includes materials related to the WASC reaffirmation of accreditation process [<http://www.wasc.ucsf.edu>]. In addition, the WASC Accreditation Steering Committee has worked closely with the Public Affairs Office to inform the campus community about the accreditation process (CFRs 1.1, 1.2, 1.7, 1.9).

This CPR report takes into account the findings and guiding questions resulting from the Institutional Proposal process. We have developed three overarching themes that are critically important to the success of UCSF, and our progress to date. To maintain the focus of the essays and stay within the 35-page limit, we include additional material in a series of appendices. A glossary of abbreviations used in this report is also attached (Appendix 1). The three theme essays include material pertaining to the WASC

standards and criterion for review (CFR), and the second appendix lists both the original set of standards and CFRs included with the Institutional Proposal from 2007, as well as an updated version that was revised from the Capacity and Preparatory Review. The CFRs are also cited where appropriate throughout this report. A summary of our progress is available in the Workplan and Milestones chart and the WASC timeline (Appendices 3 and 4).