October 7, 1994

To: Faculty, USF St. Petersburg

From: Campus Faculty Council

Regarding: Academic Planning

At the September faculty meeting we announced that Dean Heller has asked the Campus Faculty Council to develop an academic plan as the basis of a budget proposal for the 1995 legislature. To give us some idea of how expansively we should dream, he suggested that we think in terms of $1 million and about 20 faculty lines. We believe that it's crucial that the plan submitted reflect views from across the campus - not just CFC - and urge all faculty members to participate in a planning process.

In keeping with our mission, the primary goal of new or expanded programs will be increased access to higher education for residents of Pinellas County. As you know, a number of possible academic initiatives have been advanced. We propose a two-phase faculty planning process.

First, at a faculty meeting on November 10 (lunch provided) brief presentations about suggestions for academic development will be made. Presenters will also be invited to make available printed material that provides background or rationale or more detail about the suggestion. (A list of previously suggested ideas is attached and any one or group of you is urged to add your ideas to the list by contacting Bob Dardenne, Deb Henry, Mike Killenberg or Nancy McIntosh, the subcommittee responsible for planning.)

Then, on December 2, the entire faculty will spend a day planning as full faculty - reviewing mission and values, exploring the possibilities of the various ideas, and thinking about how each of us and each of our programs might fit into the various ideas. We hope that during that day some consensus will begin to emerge about which initiatives use our resources most effectively to reach our goal of making higher education more accessible.

We are doing everything we can think of (or that others suggest) to assure success of the effort. Among those things are

*Emphasizing the value of synergy - for example, a new program in international studies may require addition of faculty in literature, geography, history and business; those faculty members would then also expand a department's capacity to offer the traditional majors. Or, a program in urban studies which would require faculty in the behavioral sciences and might enrich the experience of education majors who may be interested in teaching in urban schools.
*Building on our interdisciplinary strengths and potential.

*Including colleagues from the Tampa campus in the planning process to increase investment and reduce the potential for resistance or misunderstanding.

*Planning for infrastructure needed to support additional programs, by thinking carefully about implications for the library, for staff support, for space.

*Inviting our colleagues from Marine Science to join us, to explore further opportunities for synergy.

*Gathering as much information as possible about the projected needs and opportunities available in Pinellas County and beyond, to enhance our chances of identifying programs that will enhance the quality of life of our students and our communities.

*Identifying our strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) based on the data collected and our collective wisdom and dreams.

Dean Heller has assured us that this planning process is a high priority activity. We will have the support of a faculty-selected facilitator and will select an off-site venue that will be conducive to successful (and fun) deliberations.

At this point we're asking three specific things:

Please mark the two dates on your calendars: November 10 (lunch provided!) from 11:30 to 1:00 and December 2, from 8:30 to 5:30 (continental breakfast, lunch, drinks and hors d'oeuvres).

Review the "starter" list of ideas (which have been gleaned from old memories, new lists, anyone's dreams we've heard of, community requests, etc.), and add your own and/or offer to speak to one that's been suggested at the November 10th meeting. This will not be an evaluating, decision making meeting, but the beginning of getting information together so that we can evaluate on the planning day.

Respond to requests for ideas and information that will be sent in other memos to follow this one. We want to have as much information as possible - including information about dreams, interests, values, philosophy of university education - on the table for the day of planning.

The ideas for programs that have been suggested are on the following page.
Remember that this is not intended to be a final list. There's room for your suggestion too.

New Program Development

Ethics
Urban Studies
Aging Studies
Environmental Studies
International Business
International Studies
Writing
MSW
Human Services
Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy
Math/Science
MS Management/Health Care
News and Electronic Information

Expansion of existing programs: (Preferably with an eye to synergism)

Criminal Justice
Psychology
Early Childhood
Geography

CFC Subcommittee: Bob Dardenne
Deb Henry
Mike Killenberg
Nancy McIntosh