



Office of the Provost

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June 4, 2019

Prof. Zelda B. Harris
Chair - University Senate 2018-19
Law School
Corboy Law Center
25 East Pearson Ave
Chicago, IL 60611

Prof. Susan Uprichard
Chair - University Senate 2019-20
Stritch School of Medicine
Center for Translational Research & Education
2160 S First Ave
Maywood, IL 60153

Dear University Senate Chairs Harris and Uprichard,

Response to Senate Resolution regarding English Language Learning Program (ELLP)

Over the past year, we reviewed the viability of the English Language Learning Program (ELLP) in its previous format. Enrollments in ELLP have been declining and the cost of running a program with full-time faculty and staff was not sustainable. Over the years, the model and scope of these language learning services has changed many times with enrollment increases and decreases. Information about revenues has been shared with University Senate, and the university data is clear that the decline in enrollments and revenue is real. There simply is no loss of potential revenues with this change.

The University has always intended to continue to serve our degree-seeking students in need of English language services, and we have studied various options. Discussions about the impact of the changes could not occur outside of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), as this applied to three full-time and several part-time faculty whose terms and conditions of employment are governed by their CBA. Further, it is never appropriate to discuss personnel decisions without first discussing with those impacted. The stepwise progression of these discussions is dictated by the CBA and labor law; first, the university notified the SEIU, then notified the employees, and then initiated discussions with the union.

I am glad to report that after discussions with the faculty and their SEIU representative, I have reached a decision to continue English language services under a new model that includes reduced staffing and part-time instructors. This new model is focused, scalable and makes sense in light of declining enrollments at the University and at institutions across the country. Fewer international students are coming to the United States to study. It has become increasingly difficult for students to obtain visas. Many universities have already moved to third-party providers to provide English language services. We will continue to evaluate the quality and cost effectiveness of those service models. While it is true that in the past international students paid full tuition to study in the United States, this is no longer the case. International students interested in studying in the US are looking for financial aid packages comparable to those sought after by domestic students.

Looking toward the future, the anticipated enrollment in English language services and courses at Loyola for fall 2019 is expected to be 30-50 students. The associate director, Ryan Nowak, has developed a plan to offer our students the high-quality services they need in a more efficient and cost-effective manner using many of the same instructors.

We will continue to monitor the progress of this model and to evaluate the demand of these language learning services at Loyola. As I previously stated, Loyola will always provide the learning services that our students need to succeed. We can do this through many different service models, and we intend to continue that commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Faut Callahan".

Margaret Faut Callahan, CRNA, PhD, FNAP, FAAN
Interim Provost and Chief Academic Officer

CC: Jo Ann Rooney, JD, LL.M, EdD
President