

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

October 27, 2009

Melissa Ortiz
213 South Fairview Avenue
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ortizme1@msu.edu

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

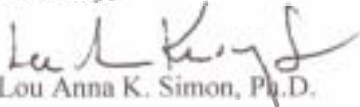
I want to acknowledge receipt of a letter dated October 22, 2009, submitted to me on behalf of concerned students regarding the Chicano/Latino Studies Program. While we apparently disagree on certain issues, including support for the current program director, and our commitment to the Faculty Policy Advisory Committee established by the Dean of Social Science and its charge, I want to assure you that certain issues raised by students at our last meeting were, or are, under review.

Regarding the CLS Web site, I do not disagree that there are pages "under construction," including the "philosophy and rationale" and "faculty" web pages. I am advised that once the Faculty Policy Advisory Committee has completed its work, these pages can be populated with content. The substance of the content on the current CLS Web site, including academic program descriptions, was reviewed. I was advised that while not verbatim, and summary in nature, the content is consistent with the academic program descriptions on the Web site of the Office of the Registrar where a more complete description of the undergraduate and graduate programs is located.

At our meeting, one of the students raised an issue regarding his personal circumstances while employed with the CLS program and has provided additional documentation. That matter is under review by the Office for Inclusion and a direct communication with him by that Office will occur.

Provost Kim Wilcox and I heard the concerns about the mentorship program and its importance to students enrolled in the CLS program. Provost Wilcox will work with the coalition of deans on this issue and will communicate to you as those discussions progress.

Sincerely,


Lou Anna K. Simon, Ph.D.
President

c: Kim Wilcox
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