

February 27, 2017

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair,
Riverside Division

From: Stephen Wimpenny, Chair 
Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Proposal for Teresa & Byron Pollitt Endowed Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research & Learning in Humanities and the Social Sciences

The Committee on Educational Policy reviewed the endowed chair proposal and is generally supportive of the proposal. Based on questions and discussion raised from several members, the Committee recommend that the following few clarifications be made:

- i.) We recommend that the statement that the funds will be distributed according to the Pollitts' interests and intentions be stated more explicitly so that the academic freedom of the Pollitt term Chairs is not constrained.
- ii.) The statement on the Chancellors vis-à-vis discretionary spending should rephrased to make it clear that this is for the endowed chairs and not for other purposes.
- iii.) Are the chairs to be only for faculty within CHASS, or as these are Interdisciplinary chairs, do they also include faculty from other colleges/schools? On a related point, can these positions be used to leverage funds to promote collaborative research between different CHASS departments or just between CHASS and non-CHASS departments. The text is unclear on these points. Please be more explicit and clarify both issues.
- iv.) If the Pollitt chairs do not encompass business as a social science, then we recommend that the photo of the professor and students, which appear to be from the Masters of Accountancy or the MBA program, be removed.
- v.) Within the CHASS part of the package, we note that Dean Pena's signature is absent, even though the text contains comments on the dean's vision for the college. Was this an oversight?
- vi.) On page 12 of the CHASS document a proposal is mentioned. Is the proposal the basis for the Chair selection? It goes on to refer to a list of organizers. A Chair normally goes to one person. Please clarify the intent here.
- vii.) Please clarify whether the statement "Amid all the research by professor, ultimately there needs to be focus on students" refers to undergraduate or graduate students.