

Subject: Re: Departmental Data and Rankings

Date: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 8:45:17 AM Pacific Standard Time

From: Jean-François Blanchette <blanchette@gseis.ucla.edu>

To: Diana Ascher <ascher@gseis.ucla.edu>

CC: Johanna Drucker <drucker@gseis.ucla.edu>, Gilliland, Anne <gilliland@gseis.ucla.edu>

Dear Diana,

This is a great idea, and very much a reality of our times. I think even just having some sense of how these rankings operate would be very valuable, and a strategy to improve them even more so. I am happy to sit down with you and discuss a timeline which, as you point out, might not start immediately given everything that's going on.

I'll join Johanna in thanking you for taking this initiative,
Jean-François

On Feb 25, 2019, at 6:33 PM, Diana Ascher <ascher@gseis.ucla.edu> wrote:

Dear Leadership Team,

I've been working on our departmental data, and noted our slipping U.S. News & World Report rankings over the past several years. Since the rankings are determined solely by the results of a survey sent to deans, directors, and senior faculty members at each program, I'm hoping that you'd be open to a discussion about how to improve our outcomes prior to the next survey. I worked on projects like this at a few other institutions, and would appreciate the opportunity to work with you to regain some ground as we roll out initiatives related to our new strategic plan.

Please let me know if this is of interest. Of course, if we have too much on our plate at the moment, we can look at this next year. It takes one to two years of diligent strategic implementation of a "survey-performance-improvement plan" to see results reflected in the rankings, so I thought I'd bring it up now.

Meanwhile, data is coming in from various campus offices, and I should have everything required for the accreditors soon.

Best,
Diana

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