

**From:** Lawrence Reynolds  
**Sent:** Friday, January 23, 2015 8:38 AM  
**To:** Kenton Rodgers; Larry Peterson  
**Cc:** Bernhardt Saini-Eidukat; Allan Ashworth; Birgit Pruess; Seth Rasmussen  
**Subject:** Re: Faculty senate agenda concerns

Kent, Larry et al. - yes please feel free to share any of my comments, and thanks for being so willing to have a thorough, thoughtful, and respectful discourse on this issue. As far as I can see, all of the points made are quite valid and point to the need for continued discussion.

One thing I would like to add is that minimal 'outcomes' to me for any student at university are:

1. To understand how science works (observation, hypothesis formulation and then testing, evaluation of results, refinement of hypothesis, etc.) and why it is such a powerful way to understand the natural and physical worlds;
2. That no matter how much we 'know' or 'understand,' we (including scientists) interpret everything in light of personal, historical, societal and political contexts; and
3. That because of these two things, educated citizens and politicians do and must continue to enlist professional scientists, engineers, and mathematicians to inform their decision making - examples include the U.S. National Academies including the National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine, the World Health Organization, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change among others.

If graduating students could articulate just these three I would be very pleased.

On a related note, I also think it is important to engage our students from all disciplines in the 'big issues' of our time such as global climate change.

One that I am passionate about that was not mentioned, and in fact that I am convinced is 'the' major issue of our time is Food Security in the context not only of the present but the near future with our rapidly expanding world (and national for that matter) population. I have been involved in an effort to educate 'lay people' about this and have several times been informed that population growth is all a myth, just as climate change is, perpetuated by 'government' and its 'cronies' to cause 'panic' so we will continue to rely on them.

Cheers!

LR