July 21, 2014

Dear Applicant to the University of Washington Evening Degree Program,

For the past several years, applications for admission to the University of Washington College of Arts and Sciences Evening Degree majors in Humanities, English, Social Sciences, and Communication have all been dropping. As a result, enrollments in these programs have now shrunk to the point at which it is no longer feasible, academically or financially, to continue to offer these degree programs. I know this news will be disappointing to you, as it is to us. But in the face of dwindling enrollments, we cannot sustain these Evening Degree programs going forward. The class that enters the Evening Degree program in autumn 2014 will therefore be the last new class of students we will be accepting into these Arts and Sciences Evening Degree programs.

These Evening Degree programs will not close immediately. Currently enrolled students, and students who enroll in these programs starting in autumn 2014, will be given a reasonable chance to complete their degrees. We will continue to offer the courses you will need to fulfill your degree requirements for the next three years; however, the total number of courses offered will decline as we wind the program down. Evening Degree program advisors will also continue to be available to assist you in selecting courses and in tracking your progress toward your degree.

Applicants to the Evening Degree programs in Social Sciences and/or Communication may wish to consider applying to enroll instead in the new, online Integrated Social Sciences Degree (ISS) program, which is currently accepting students to begin in autumn quarter 2014. ISS courses are taught entirely online by a distinguished group of regular UW faculty. Tuition in ISS is also significantly lower than it is for any of the University’s other degree programs, including the Evening Degree program. For further information on ISS, including a list of courses and faculty participating in the ISS program, please go to the program’s website: www.issdegree@uw.edu. You can also contact the Director of Academic Services for ISS, Mel Wensel, at wensel@uw.edu.

I’m sorry not to be able to share better news, but having had to make this painful decision, I wanted to inform you of it as quickly as possible, so that you can plan most effectively for the completion of your degree.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Stacey
Dean
College of Arts and Sciences