UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

PRESENTED BY: Fran Walley, Chair, Planning and Priorities Committee

DATE OF MEETING: December 19, 2013

SUBJECT: **TransformUS Task Force Reports**

COUNCIL ACTION: For information only

PURPOSE:

The TransformUS task force reports are presented to Council to facilitate the discussion of the process used to develop the reports, which is planned to occur at the December Council meeting. It is appropriate that the task force reports be tabled with Council as ultimately Council will be asked to provide input and feedback regarding the reports to assist in the analysis of the recommendations within the reports by the provost's committee on integrated planning (PCIP).

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND:

On January 24, 2013, Council approved in principle the undertaking of a process for program prioritization for all academic and administrative programs, in recognition of the fact that Council will ultimately be asked to approve any forthcoming recommendations that affect academic programs. This priority ranking of all university programs (academic and service/support) against defined criteria was undertaken to enable the university to allocate operating resources to programs on the basis of priority and to facilitate operating budget adjustments over the next three years without invoking *across-the-board* reductions.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

The reports were prepared by two task forces: the Academic Programs Transformation Task Force (APT) and the Support Services Transformation Task Force (SST). The task forces were tasked to develop criteria for ranking programs, develop weightings for the criteria, develop the categorization system for determining outcomes, collecting data from all programs to complete the ranking recommendations, and completing a report with recommendations on the outcomes for consideration by the president and provost by November 30, 2013. The task force reports group programs reviewed into five quintiles as follows:

1. candidate for enhanced resourcing;
2. maintain with current resourcing;
3. retain with reduced resourcing;
4. reconfigure for efficiency/effectiveness;
5. candidate for phase out, subject to further review.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Academic Programs Transformation Task Force Report
2. Support Services Transformation Task Force Report

The task force reports are available at http://words.usask.ca/transformus/reports/