

Final

COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning Committee

MEETING DATE: 11 December 2015

PERSON PRESIDING: Chaney

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bowler, Chaney, Das, Duffy, Stellwag, Sugar

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Bailey, Little, McConnell, Reaves

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lee, Summey, S. Eakins, Schwager, Gemperline, O'Halloran, Mitra, Aziz, Hinkner, Fraser

Call to Order: 1:02 p.m.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item 1: Review of November 13, 2015 EPPC meeting minutes

Discussion: None

Action Taken: Approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 2: Request to approve the establishment of the Miller School of Entrepreneurship. Unit: College of Business. Representative(s): Stan Eakins, Paul Schwager

Discussion: Dean Eakins identified the impetus and the importance of the Miller School of Entrepreneurship, which is two years in the making. With generous external support from Fielding and Kimberly Miller and from members of the Business Advisory Council, the proposed new academic unit within the College of Business has received substantial financial support to begin operations and to endow the position of director and two additional new professorships. The school will offer a degree in Entrepreneurship and Small Business with enhanced course offerings supporting innovation, small and family business, and entrepreneurship. The College will continue to support the current Certificate Program in Entrepreneurship for non-business majors. The school will create a graduate Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship and offer, as well, a minor in Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Courses will be taught by existing College of Business faculty and faculty from across the campus. The school will also utilize fixed-term faculty who are highly experienced and active entrepreneurs from the region. There will be close collaboration between the Director of the School of Entrepreneurship and department chairs within the University for the purpose of faculty evaluation and curriculum development. A multi-disciplinary steering committee has been formed that will oversee curriculum development, with participation coming from other Colleges.

Action Taken: Motion approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 3: Request to approve the movement of Sustainable Tourism from The Graduate School to the College of Business, School of Hospitality Leadership; Movement of Degree: MS in Sustainable Tourism. Unit: The Graduate School/College of Business. Representative(s): Paul Gemperline, Stan Eakins, Bob O'Halloran

Discussion: Dean Gemperline described the process whereby the Faculty Graduate Committee of the Master's of Science in Sustainable Tourism (housed in the Graduate School), as the voting faculty of the "sending unit," voted on their choice of destination for the degree program, between the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies/ College of Health and Human Performance and the School of Hospitality Leadership/ College of Business. After considering the vote and the Qualtrics survey responses of the Faculty Graduate Committee on the potential fitness, strengths, and weaknesses of both departments for the MS in Sustainable Tourism, the Graduate School recommends to move the graduate degree program to the School of Hospitality Leadership. Dean Gemperline stated that this move will offer the best opportunity for increased enrollment in a program that has had low enrollment. SHL has proposed to increase enrollment to 50-60 students in three years. It provides the greatest potential to move the program online where it will more easily accommodate non-traditional students, working adults and place-bound workers in the North Carolina tourism industry, which is spread throughout the state. In SHL there is a heavier focus on professional training and career advancement opportunities as well as a larger pool of undergraduate students.

Action Taken: Motion approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 4: Request to approve the authorization to plan a new degree program: Joint (ECU/UNCW) PhD program in Integrative Coastal Marine Science (ICMS)
Representative(s): Paul Gemperline, Sid Mitra

Discussion: Dean Gemperline described the planning process for the new doctoral program in Integrative Coastal Marine Science. ECU and UNCW have distinct faculty expertise and infrastructure in the natural and social sciences in coastal and oceanic research to offer a joint advanced graduate program. In 2013 there was a UNC system-wide review of coastal and marine sciences by experts representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), which identified the two campuses for their complementary strengths and regional expertise in coastal and marine science. A committee of both campuses wrote the final report. The ECU Graduate Committee has approved the plan contingent upon an updated budget. The joint PhD program has the greatest opportunity for external support for graduate assistant expenditures from grants and contracts. All students in the ICMS program will have equal access to all facilities, systems, and services at both ECU and UNC-W, and the UNC Coastal Studies Institute. Students will take courses on both campuses and are likely to interact with faculty and utilize research facilities from both institutions in the course of their study. This will also foster interdisciplinary activities and enable new partnerships and opportunities that further strengthen academic links between the two universities. Instruction will be primarily campus based at ECU, UNC-W and CSI and will require significant amounts of laboratory and field research. About 20% of courses will be online, as both synchronous and asynchronous distance learning technologies will be important to the success of the joint program.

Action Taken: Motion approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 5: Request to approve the revision of Existing Degree: Industrial and Organizational Concentration of the MA in General-Theoretic Psychology (change requirement); New graduate certificate in Quantitative Methods for the Social and Behavioral Sciences. Unit: Department of Psychology
Representative(s): Shahnaz Aziz and Mark Bowler

Discussion: Professor Aziz pointed out the practical aspect of offering the proposed certificate. The certificate will train students in the design, interpretation, and application of advanced statistical methods and their function in behavioral and social sciences. The statistical methods utilized by the social sciences, unlike in the biological and medical sciences, are based on a unique set of assumptions and challenges arising from the behavioral data. Completion of this certificate will provide students with tangible evidence of these marketable skills and make them more competitive job candidates after graduation. The new thesis option available for students in the Industrial and Organizational Concentration of the MA in General-Theoretic Psychology will provide students earning a practitioner-oriented degree with a more practical plan. The internship will be more relevant for these students who will complete a technical report or some other project in the place of a thesis. For MA students who anticipate entering a doctoral program in the future, the thesis will continue to be strongly encouraged. Several comparable regional graduate programs, as UNC-Charlotte, Appalachian State University, Radford University, and George Mason University, have a thesis-option route.

Action Taken: Motion approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 6: Request to approve the revision of the PhD in Bioenergetics and Proposal of New Concentrations: Biomechanics and Motor Control, Cellular and Molecular Bioenergetics, Nutritional Exercise Physiology, Exercise Physiology and Behavioral Science Unit: Department of Kinesiology. Representative: Robert Hinkner

Discussion: Professor Hinkner discussed the proposed changes and their implications. Graduate faculty of the Department of Kinesiology and the College of Health and Human Performance have voted and approved the formation of four concentrations within the Bioenergetics and Exercise Science PhD program. The anticipated increase in curriculum focus will positively impact the doctoral program in various ways. Students will now be able to formally specialize within their area of interest and will receive on their final transcript the title of their degree concentration, which will better reflect their academic preparation in their specialty area and make them more marketable upon graduation. It is anticipated that the new concentrations will enhance the quality and numbers of incoming students by identifying specific areas of study and appropriate faculty mentors for those students. It is believed that the creation of concentrations will also contribute to a more effective outcomes assessment program by establishing outcomes and data assessment actions specific to individual concentrations. Since most other PhD programs in kinesiology departments have identified concentrations or areas of specialization, the proposed concentrations requested here will bring this program in line with other academic units across the country. This proposal will not increase the funding needs of the program. No new courses are being developed. The total credit number for the degree will not change.

Action Taken: Motion approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 7: Request to approve a New Concentration within the BA in Foreign Languages and Literatures: Global Studies. Unit: Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Representative: Benjamin Fraser

Discussion: Professor Fraser described the recent process of consolidation within the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature resulting in the unification of six individual degree programs into one degree, the BA in Foreign Languages and Literature with six representative concentrations. The new 30-hour concentration in Global Studies will enable students to pursue combinations of two languages for their degree. It will also allow them to enroll in successful courses not required of foreign language majors that now become a part of this new degree program. Existing FORL courses taught in the department will be used in this concentration in addition to two new courses under the new GLST prefix approved by the Office of the Registrar, GLST 1000 and GLST 4500, introductory and capstone courses that will bring coherence to the concentration.

Action Taken: Motion approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 8: Program Review response for the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. Unit: Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Representative: George Bailey. EPPC Primary Reviewer: Chaney

Discussion: Professor Bailey described the process whereby the response of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies to its spring 2012 program review was postponed until ECU would finalize its new Strategic Plan. The final ECU Strategic plan was presented in fall 2014. In spring 2015 ECU colleges, schools and departments finalized their Strategic Plans. The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies began implementing its new Strategic Plan in fall 2015. Its 2015 Follow Up and Revised Response to the Spring 2012 Program Review provides Department responses to each of the recommendations made by external reviewers in 2012, regarding research, promotion of the discipline, administrative succession, the interests of philosophy and religious studies, and the consideration of additional assessment strategies.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the program review response for the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies was passed.

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 9: Request to approve the discontinuation of existing certification: Driver and Safety Education Add On Certification. Unit: Department of Health Education and Promotion. Representative: Don Chaney

Discussion: Professor Chaney described the process and justification for the request to discontinue the existing certificate in Driver Safety and Education. The Department faculty approved the change in February 2015. A faculty review of this program determined that it is of limited interest to students. There has been a decline in certificate completions over the past 10 years. Program assessment data has revealed that no students have completed the program in the past four years. No students are currently enrolled in this program, and no new students will be admitted to the program.

Action Taken: Motion approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement 1: Update on the subcommittee to draft guidelines for Provisional Codes – Bailey

There is no news to report at this time on the subcommittee's work.

Announcement 2: Update on the January 2016 meeting
– Chaney

Dr. Rondall Rice, Director of University Studies, will attend the January 15 meeting to discuss the BS in University Studies.

Announcement 3: Update on the University review of Curriculog software for possible acquisition

Director Reaves reported on the review process and noted that in November the Faculty Senate received a recommendation from the University Curriculum to support Curriculog's acquisition. The vendor Digarc, one of six invited vendor presentation by SACSCOC at its December meeting in Houston, received a positive response at its Curriculog product presentation. Throughout the 2014-15 academic year, demonstrations and discussions of Curriculog have been held with the Faculty Senate officers, University Curriculum Committee, Graduate School, Graduate Curriculum Committee, Office of the Registrar, ITCS, and EPPC; all support acquisition of Curriculog to improve efficiencies in curriculum and program development. A decision to purchase is expected this spring with possible implementation in Spring 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

January 15, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. 142 Rawl Annex.