Call to Order: 1:00 p.m.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item 1: Update on the University Studies Program
Representative: Ron Mitchelson

Discussion: Provost Mitchelson mentioned the long-range goal, authorized by Faculty Senate Resolution 13-57, to have the B.S. in University Studies degree moved into an academic college. He recognized that in terms of enrolled majors, BSUS is one of the largest programs on campus. After talking with members of the Faculty Oversight Committee for BSUS, the Provost does not believe that there is a great sense of urgency in moving Undergraduate Studies. He understands that there may be an issue with capacity in the future, with more than 400 BSUS majors at present. Currently, select entry and capstone courses are the only ones being created outside academic colleges. These courses are approved by the University Curriculum Committee. Dr. Mitchelson noted the importance of predictive analytics utilized for student data that identify risks and opportunities for ECU. We lead the UNC system in part-way home students. ECU has made every effort to get these students back, and 300 students have returned to school. The BSUS degree program has contributed to this success. The Provost said that the Faculty Oversight Committee is sensitive to the requirements of colleges and departments where there is high student demand. FOC believes strongly in BSUS and is in agreement not to recommend moving University Studies at this time. The Provost stated that ECU is not going to create a University College. Dr. Rice, the current director of University Studies, has been a good spokesman for it. We can build on its current success.

Action Taken: N/A
Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 2: Review of January 15, 2015 EPPC meeting minutes

Discussion: None

Action Taken: Approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 3: Request for Authorization to Establish a New Distance Education Degree Program: PhD in Nursing; Unit: College of Nursing
Representative: Elaine Scott

I. Discussion: Professor Scott pointed out that the new distance education PhD program in Nursing will continue the current practice at ECU of offering graduate Nursing program coursework online. Teaching and Research Assistants presently work online. In contrast to the majority of MSN programs and the DNP program at ECU’s College of Nursing, the PhD program depends on traditional face-to-face coursework. The new DE PhD program in Nursing will address the Nursing faculty shortage in the region and country as well as increase the application pool and geographical reach of the PhD nursing program at ECU. This degree program prepares students for crucial leadership and research roles in both education and practice. It will have a targeted audience of community college and university faculty in nursing programs, health care system nursing administrators, nurses in quality improvement and safety departments as well as graduates of ECU’s master’s and DNP programs that want to implement clinical research. No new faculty or workload will be needed, since the number of hours and courses currently taught face-to-face would be transitioned into online course offerings. All faculty participate in continuing education in online technologies for teaching and have a well-supported delivery platform for online education. The ultimate goal for the PhD program will be to transition to fully online with some occasional onsite attendance requirement. The first phase of this transition will be to offer more than 50% of classes across the curriculum via the web. As the student moves through the curriculum, more and more of the course content will be offered via the web. In the first semester, the majority of the classes will be face-to-face to allow students to socialize to doctoral education and foster relationships with peers in their cohorts as well as with faculty. Beginning the second semester a minimum of 50% of the classes will be online. The Nursing program is working with doctoral students to balance the face-to-face and online components of their course load with flexible part-time work schedules in the community.

The committee commended the College of Nursing for its efforts in planning this new online PhD program. The committee asks that Nursing further clarify in Appendix G, on pages 2 and 6, whether transitioning to online instruction occurs as the student advances through the proposed program, or whether the new program, itself, is moving to a fully online format.
II. Action Taken: Approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 4: Request to approve a revision of degree title: BS in Merchandising to BS in Fashion Merchandising and Consumer Studies; Unit: Department of Interior Design and Merchandising
Representative: Erin Parrish

Discussion: Professor Parrish discussed the reasons for the proposed revision of the BS Merchandising degree title to include “Fashion and Consumer Studies.” The Merchandising Faculty recognize that potential students to the program search for similar programs using the word “fashion” rather than “merchandising.” Parrish stated that fashion merchandising better reflects what the Merchandising Faculty teach in their courses. In order to differentiate their new degree title from one called Fashion Merchandising with an existing CIP Code, the department faculty have approved the new title, BS in Fashion Merchandising and Consumer Studies.

Action Taken: Approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 5: Request to approve the Provisional Code for Laupus Library
Representative: Beth Ketterman, Melissa Nasea

Discussion: Professor Nasea discussed the justification for Laupus Library completing a Provisional Code. The Unit’s Code cannot pass Part IX of the ECU Faculty Manual as it is currently written. Laupus, like Joyner, is being required to transition to a unit that can only hire fixed term faculty. Nasea described the sections of the Laupus Library Provisional Code and noted that there are procedures for faculty advancement in promotion and title and for the election of the Performance Review Committee.

Action Taken: Approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 6: Provide formal advice on the revised PRR (Policies, Rules, Regulations) for Centers and Institutes. Representative: Michael Van Scott

Discussion: Dr. Michael Van Scott, Interim Vice Chancellor for Research, Economic Development, and Engagement, stated that ECU is making its policy consistent with new rulings by General Administration for the UNC Policy Manual, noting that the changes are considered minor. He described the upcoming review process. Next Friday, February
19, the revised PRR for establishing Centers and Institutes at ECU will be presented to the Board of Trustees. If approved, the PRR will be brought to the Faculty Senate in order to make it a permanent policy. The input of EPPC will be submitted to the Senate. Van Scott walked through key portions of the revised ECU Centers and Institutes Policy document.

**Action Taken:** Approved with the request that Vice-Chancellor Van Scott’s Division review the numbering sequence for regulations and procedures in order to ensure that the document is consistent.

There were no announcements.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Friday, March 4 at 1:00 p.m. 142 Rawl Annex.