COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning

MEETING DATE: Friday, February 10, 2017

PERSON PRESIDING: Don Chaney

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mark Bowler, Bryna Coonin, Don Chaney, Kanchan Das, Michael Duffy, Debra Jordan, Donna Kain, Christy Walcott

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: George Bailey, Tom McConnell, Leslie Pagliari

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Karen Summey, Chris Locklear, Gerald Prokopowicz, Venkat Gudivada, Robin Webb Corbett, Dave Lane, Jean-Luc Schemama, Shelia Bunch, Paul Toriello

---

**ACTIONS OF MEETING**

**Agenda Item:** Approval of January 13, 2017 EPPC meeting minutes

**Discussion:** None

**Action Taken:** Approved as written

**Assigned additional duties to:** N/A

---

**Agenda Item:** Movement of an existing undergraduate degree, BS University Studies, to the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Unit: Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Representatives: Chris Locklear, Gerald Prokopowicz

**Discussion:** Dr. Locklear, Vice Provost for Academic Success, discussed the establishment and goals of the Bachelor of Science in University Studies and the agreement reached in December 2016 by Dr. Ron Mitchelson, Provost, Division of Academic Affairs, and Dr. Bill Downs, Dean of the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, to transfer the BSUS to the Harriot College. The responsibilities of each of the parties were noted. Professor Bowler asked who would be responsible for approving programs. Professor Kain discussed the resolution of the Faculty Senate and Dean Downs’ interest. Professor Prokopowicz, the Interim Program Director of BSUS, recognized that the program was in good standing and that a routine compliance audit by the University was near completion. In response to a question from Professor Chaney, Professor Kain pointed out that Undergraduate Studies was not tied to Multidisciplinary Studies since the two programs were different in curriculum and structure. Professor Prokopowicz noted that there was a 60 hour threshold in BSUS so that students enter the program in their junior year while Multidisciplinary Studies majors begin earlier. Dr. Locklear acknowledged that faculty oversight will remain with the Faculty Senate. Professor Prokopowicz believes that physical space and a home in HCAS for the BS in Undergraduate Studies will help to build a sense of morale in this group, which is outside the other colleges.

**Action Taken:** Motion to support the move was passed unanimously.

**Assigned additional duties to:** N/A
**Agenda Item:** Revision of an existing degree, MS in Software Engineering: Discontinuation of existing concentrations (Software design and development; Software project management and quality assurance; Software testing

*Unit: Department of Computer Science*

*Representative: Venkat Gudivada*

**Discussion:** Professor Gudivada, Chair of the Department of Computer Science, discussed the reasons for replacing the current three MS program concentrations in Software Engineering with a new set of core courses. In order to more effectively tie department faculty resources to student enrollments and timely graduation schedules as well as the prospects of employment after graduation, the department has decided to redefine the core. The new core of three courses, SENG 6230, 6235 and 6265, aligns more with a new trend to provide a very small set of core courses in foundational knowledge and skills for software engineering careers, and offer a range of elective courses, enabling students to develop their own specialization and career path with the selection of electives. Professor Gudivada also pointed out that a new coursework-only option, alongside coursework and thesis and coursework and project options in the completion of the MS program, appeals to “nontraditional” students whose BS degree is in fields outside the computing disciplines. These students make up the majority of students in the MSSE program, the majority of whom choose the online option and are highly motivated to find a job after graduation. The Department consulted software engineers at RedHat, IBM and SAS, all North Carolina-based companies, which preferred the small core of required courses and the coursework-only option.

**Action Taken:** Motion to approve the revision of the MS degree in Software Engineering was passed unanimously

**Assigned additional duties:** N/A

---

**Agenda Item:** Proposal of a new post-master’s certificate: Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

Proposal of a new concentration: MSN: Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

*Unit: College of Nursing*

*Representatives: Robin Webb Corbett, Dave Lane*

**Discussion:** Professor Lane discussed the proposals for a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner post-master’s certificate and concentration within the existing MSN program. Both programs will require eight new courses on psychiatric treatment of mental problems across the lifespan for people at greatest risk for psychiatric disorders. The remaining core and advanced practices courses in the certificate and the concentration are already being taught. For 2016-2017, the College of Nursing has hired two faculty prepared in psychiatric mental health nursing, and is attempting to get a new position for mental health nursing. Professors Lane and Corbett pointed to a great need for mental health practitioners in eastern North Carolina and nationally, and the College is planning to admit 14 to 21 students annually with current resources. Since there is a very small decrease in student enrollment in the master’s program, there is room for students who need core courses. Current students in BA- and MA-level nursing have expressed interest in the new PMHNP programs. Only one North Carolina university currently trains Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners. The Brody School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry will also provide additional information and resources for the PMHNP programs.

**Action Taken:** Motion to approve the request was passed unanimously

**Assigned additional duties:** N/A
Agenda Item: Proposal of new undergraduate concentrations in the BS in Biochemistry: Biology, Chemistry. Reduction in total degree credit hours from 126 to 120.
Unit: Department of Biology
Representative: Jean-Luc Scemama

Discussion: Professor Scemama, Director of Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Biology, discussed the proposal of the Departments of Biology and Chemistry to offer two concentrations in the BS in Biochemistry. The Biology concentration will focus on the molecular aspects of biochemistry while the Chemistry concentration will emphasize structural aspects of biochemistry. The two departments will share the curriculum of the B.S. in Biochemistry while advising duties and degree production credit will follow the student’s concentration. The size of the core will be reduced by moving a number of Biology and Chemistry courses to their respective concentrations and the number of required courses for the degree is reduced to 120 s.h. The anticipated benefits will be more advisement in concentration, increased enrollments, and better employment numbers in chemistry and biotechnology. The proposed curriculum requests will not require any additional personnel or financial resources.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the request was passed unanimously

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Program Review Response for the Gerontology and Substance Abuse Certificates
Unit: School of Social Work
Representative: Sheila Bunch
EPPC Primary Reviewer: Donna Kain

Discussion: Professor Bunch, Director of the School of Social Work, reviewed the School’s response to the on-site program review of the two certificate programs that occurred on November 13-16, 2016. She noted that some of the review questions were designed for a degree program and not a certificate review. Consideration should be given for certificates that were very recently accredited by a national body, such as the substance abuse accrediting agency in this case. Professor Bunch suggested that the certificate program reviews did not need to have the review committees socialize outside the university at some expense. Professor Kain responded that the Director of IPAR may adjust the process for certificates. She thought that the recommendations of the review committee were accurate and relevant, such as strategies for increasing enrollment, making the program more interdisciplinary. The recommendations for computer use, not teaching to the test, capping classes, and increasing faculty appear somewhat minor. As a result of a recommendation, material has been ordered for test-taking strategies. Professor Kain thought the IRC was very thorough in its response and offered clarity in its report.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the program review response was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Program Review Response, Department of Addictions and Rehabilitation Studies
Unit: Department of Addictions and Rehabilitation Studies
Representative: Paul Toriello
EPPC Primary Reviewer: Ruth Little
Discussion: Professor Toriello, Chair of the Department of Addictions and Rehabilitation Studies, discussed his program review response to external reviewers, who called for more professional development of students and faculty as well as marketing and recruitment. He noted that the department had recently received re-accreditations for its doctoral and two master’s programs. Addictions and Rehabilitation Studies will request from the administration that a faculty line be returned, as requested by the reviewers. Toriello acknowledged that the department is looking for the right funding model. Professor Bowler stated that the department’s program review response appeared concise and even terse. Professor Bailey mentioned to Professor Toriello that it was valuable to have more explanation in the response especially as it goes up the chain to the chancellor. Professor Toriello responded that certain recommendations for increased faculty activities were not feasible at present due to lack of time and resources. Professor Chaney pointed out that Ruth Little was the committee’s representative last year on the academic program review. The current program response was edited after the Academic Council meeting of later summer 2016. Director Dreyfus provided the committee with an update. EPPC believes that the cut of a faculty position and the reduction in the operating budget could be written back into the department’s academic review response. The committee recommends that some of the department’s responses should be more elaborate.

Action Taken: A motion to approve the program review with the committee’s recommendation was passed unanimously

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Comment and Review of Part VI, Section VII (Curriculum Procedures and Academic Program Development) of the Faculty Manual
Representatives: EPPC Subcommittee: Mark Bowler, Michael Duffy, Karen Summey, Donna Kain, Leslie Pagliari,

Discussion: Ms. Karen Summey, Coordinator for Academic Program Development, representing Lori Flint, Director of Institutional Planning and Accreditation and a member of the EPPC subcommittee, commented on the considerable revisions of Part VI, Section VII (Curriculum Procedures and Academic Program Development) of the Faculty Manual, made by the Division of Academic Planning and Accreditation. She noted that the revisions include updates, new department titles, and GA processes. Institutional Planning and Accreditation has addressed issues of Curriculog, and included additional levels of approval, decided upon at the previous EPPC meeting. Curriculog training is being planned. The GA CIP Code system is revised with 11 numbers (teacher licensure specialty codes are a separate field). We have added post-doctoral certificates. Curriculum developments are distinguished from program developments. There is additional language for oversight in program reviews. The Request to Plan a New Degree Program currently has a lengthy process and is subject to rigorous, thorough campus-wide vetting. The Request to Plan, which contains questions of full campus concern, will undergo the full Level III campus review. Once GA approves the plan, ECU has four months to submit the Request to Establish. The Request to Establish is an abbreviated document and vetting process that updates the Request to Plan, as well as curriculum and other materials that are the purview of unit faculty administering the program. Ms. Summey pointed out that in Curriculog, faculty will see step-by-step descriptions of the process, and can save their additions at any time. She took language edits from committee members.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the changes discussed today to Part VI, Section VII of the Faculty Manual was passed unanimously.

Additional Duties Assigned: N/A

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ UPDATES:

a. APR Updates:
i. Nursing PhD – faculty are working on the unit response (McConnell, EPPC Representative) Professor McConnell noted that the Nursing unit response looks strong, and should be completed soon.

ii. Communication Sciences – on-site review was just completed (Bowler, EPPC Representative)

iii. English – writing the self-study; on-site visit is scheduled for April 9-11 (Walcott, EPPC Representative)

iv. Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences PhD – working on dates for the review (Chaney, EPPC Representative)

v. Math – oriented the department; working on dates and reviewers. Professor Kain volunteered for the Math APR which begins in the fall.

vi. Nutrition – oriented the department; working on dates and reviewers Professor Chaney volunteered for the Nutrition APR which begins in the fall.

b. Update on the Fall 2016 Low Productivity Program Report – Summey Ms. Summey recognized that Director Flint has been helping faculty with their reports. This year we have 11 bachelor and 7 master’s programs that are identified as low producing. This year, the University is only looking at degrees awarded, averaged over 5 years.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday, March 17, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in 142 Rawl Annex.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Duffy