

COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning

MEETING DATE: Friday, April 13, 2018

PERSON PRESIDING: Don Chaney

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mark Bowler, Bryna Coonin, Don Chaney, John Collins, Michael Duffy, Christy Walcott

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sophia Armstrong, George Bailey, Ruth Little, Tom McConnell, Rita Reaves

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lori Lee, Karen Summey, Reide Corbett, David Griffith, Tijjani Mohammed, Carol Greene, Louis Warren, Linda Ingalls

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Approval of March 16, 2018 EPPC meeting minutes

Discussion: None

Action Taken: Approved as written

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item: Request to approve a provisional code for the Department of Coastal Studies

Unit: Department of Coastal Studies, Academic Affairs

Representative: Reide Corbett, David Griffith, Robin Webb Corbett, Rick Hernandez,

Discussion: Professor Chaney reminded the committee of its approval of a recent proposal to establish the Department of Coastal Studies, at our November 10 meeting, and the anticipation that the new department would return to EPPC once its provisional code is in place. Professor Reide Corbett, Program Head of Coastal Processes, for the PhD Program in Coastal Resource Management, discussed the history of this initiative, which goes back to 2004. An external review recommended that the creation of a department dedicated to coastal studies should move forward. The Coastal Strategic Planning Committee recommended consolidating East Carolina University's many coastal and marine initiatives into a single coded unit. The new department is interdisciplinary in nature. Corbett discussed the recent search for a new faculty member that yielded a good pool of applicants. Another search is anticipated for next year.

Professor Chaney asked what impact the new department has had on other departments. Corbett pointed out that current Coastal Studies faculty members specialize in geological science, anthropology, and economics. Three of the four positions are half-time appointments. Corbett acknowledged that collaboration with home departments across campus is key to the new department's success. Professor Griffith stated that Coastal Studies faculty are open to collaboration with their own departments. The new PhD degree will be the one degree originating in the new department.

Professor McConnell pointed out that the provisional code does not identify a mechanism for differentiating associate from full professors, and encouraged the presenters to include this edit as an attached document.

Professor Reaves spoke in favor of the new department, and cited the very positive language used by Susan Avery, the past president of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, in the external report presented to East Carolina University. Avery wrote that the new integrated unit would lead to greater synergy at the university. McConnell acknowledged that Dr. Paul Gemperline is supportive of this program.

Action Taken: Motion to approve a provisional code for the Department of Coastal Studies was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Request to revise the Family Nurse Practitioner and Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificates and Doctor of Nursing Practice Core Curriculum

Unit: College of Nursing

Representative: Robin Webb Corbett

Discussion: Professor Chaney acknowledged that the four actions included in this formal request are tied together. Professor Corbett, Chair of the Department of Advanced Nursing Practice and Education, pointed out that ECU presently has a DNP practice degree, which is being expanded to include a DNP for leadership, to train directors of nursing, and a nurse of anesthesia. We have one DNP core for them, and are updating the curriculum for Gerontology and DNP. We have a transitional curriculum planned for students in those programs. We had to make changes in the certificate and FNP programs. There will be two pathways to earn the DNP 1) the post-masters and 2) BSN-DNP. In the BSN-DNP there are three specialty areas: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGPCNP) / Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Nurse Anesthesia (CRNA), and Nursing Leadership.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the request to have one DNP with three separate concentrations and specialty areas and changes in two certificates, was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Request to revise the History, BA (4 new concentrations: Historical Studies, Pre-law, Public History, Atlantic and Maritime)

Unit: Department of History, Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Representative: Rick Hernandez

Discussion: Professor Hernandez discussed the proposed revision of the History BA to include subsuming the current requirements into a new Historical Studies concentration and creating a framework for more concentrations. The three additional concentrations will be Pre-law, Public History, and Atlantic and Maritime History. The new concentrations will be interdisciplinary and have their own sets of aims. They will provide marketable skills for employment, and will allow the department to gain new student demographics. Certain areas of the curriculum will now be more available to students with specific career objectives. For example, maritime faculty will be able to teach undergraduate courses in the Atlantic and Maritime concentration.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the request to revise the History, BA with four new concentrations: Historical Studies, Pre-law, Public History, Atlantic and Maritime, was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Request to revise the Network Technology, MS (proposes new Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Information Computer Technology/Master of Science in Network Technology
Unit: Department of Technology Systems, College of Engineering and Technology
Representative: Tijjani Mohammed

Discussion: In September 2017 faculty from the MS in Network Technology and the BS in Information Computer Technology voted to request an integrated undergraduate/masters' Program for Network Technology in the Department of Technology Systems. Professor T.J. Mohammed, Chair of the Department of Technology Systems, recognized that the requested revision will improve recruitment to the Department of Technology Systems. Students in the proposed accelerated BS program will have internships and become employed by the time of graduation. The proposed changes will help to retain our best BS ICT student majors on campus. The accelerated program will reduce time for completion since juniors can apply for the integrated BS/master's program for MSNT. It will reduce or eliminate the need for course substitutions especially among students who have taken the undergraduate version of the course and opt to substitute for rather than retake the initial course at the graduate level. By reducing the time to degree, students would spend less time on assistantships. This will allow for a more efficient use of assistantships, assuring that all the admitted integrated program students will be sponsored with either part-time or full-time graduate assistantships.

Professor Reaves asked how this degree will benefit students. Mohammed stated that the proposed degree will give students a competitive edge. When adjusted, the degree will be at 120 credit hours. It was noted that the variable counting of credits for a degree, in each case, has to be justified to SACS.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the request to revise the Network Technology, MS (new Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Information Computer Technology/Master of Science in Network Technology) was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Request to establish a new certificate program in Teaching Children in Poverty
Unit: Department of Elementary Education and Middle Grades Education, College of Education
Representative: Carol Greene and Louis Warren

Discussion: Professor Greene stated that the department has put together four courses on poverty. Children from this background bring unique strengths and have specific needs in the areas of learning and development. There are other states, many of them out west, which offer these programs focusing on poverty. In North Carolina, we would be the first to offer this kind of certificate. This certificate will prepare teachers to work with children living in poverty. Students will learn about the cognitive, social, and emotional implications of poverty on children and families including poverty's effects on children's development and the impact of poverty-related stress and trauma on children's learning and attention. Additionally, students will learn educational and assessment strategies that address the specific needs of children from poverty in the areas of cognition and social and emotional learning and development and will be able to apply them to classroom practice. The statistics of eastern North Carolina exceed both the state average and the national average with respect to percentage of people living in poverty.

Professor Walcott inquired about the possibility of offering this program online. It is important to schools to be able to work with students in poverty. Warren noted that many teachers come from a middle-class background. It is more timely for graduate students.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the request to establish a new certificate program in Teaching Children in Poverty was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Request to reduce the hours in the BS in Sports Studies from 121 to 120

Unit: Department of Kinesiology, College of Health and Human Performance

Representatives: Don Chaney, Ruth Little, Rita Reaves, Linda Ingalls

Discussion: Professor Chaney represented the Department of Kinesiology in its request to reduce the required credit hour total for the BS in Sports Studies to 120. This request is part of a package of curriculum revisions to the BS in Sports Studies. It calls for the removal of 1 elective credit hour from the program requirements which will bring the overall required credit hours to 120 hours, in alignment with the system-wide mandate.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the request to reduce the hours in the BS in Sports Studies from 121 to 120 was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Request to deliver online the Master of Public Health (MPH)

Unit: Department of Public Health, Brody School of Medicine

Representative: Ruth Little

Discussion: Professor Little talked about the lack of online master's degrees in Public Health that align with our program, while some universities like UNC Wilmington do not have a masters' degree. The goal of the program is to develop a future workforce with primary rural focus equipped to reduce health disparities. The Department of Public Health is committed to educating professionals and conducting research to improve the health of communities in our region and beyond. Many students who are working professionals are attracted to the online options available to them that allow them to continue their employment. Further, the ECU MPH program is committed to providing public health training to students in rural areas who would not otherwise be able to access educational resources due to distance and/or cost.

Professor Walcott asked if all courses will be offered face-to-face. Little responded that all courses have face-to-face sections, and will include online sections. Professor Coonin asked if there are adequate faculty and resources for the online degree. Little replied that there are some limited opportunities available to establish the online degree program. Existing funds will be used to deliver the MPH online. There are enough well-qualified faculty members available to develop and deliver the proposed online delivery of the MPH degree program.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the request to deliver online the Master of Public Health (MPH) was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

Agenda Item: Proposal to establish a new School of Rural Public Health. Request to approve provisional codes for the Department of Biostatistics, Department of Health Education and Promotion, Department of Health Services and Information Management, and Department of Public Health.

Representatives: Don Chaney, Ruth Little, Rita Reaves, Linda Ingalls

Discussion: Professor Chaney acknowledged that three EPPC members (Don Chaney, Ruth Little, and Rita Reaves) are on the Public Health Implementation Committee, which goes back several years. In July 2015 a School of Public Health Advisory Council was established. The panel considered how we could establish a School of Public Health. In January 2017 the School Implementation Committee was formed. The plan was to have four distinct units, of which two are accredited. We put together a timeline for the establishment of a School of Rural Public Health by 2020. Faculty from the Colleges of Health and Human Performance, Allied Health Sciences, and the Brody School of Medicine would vote on this. The unit faculties of the Departments of Public Health, Biostatistics, Health Services and Information Management, and Health Education and Promotion would be initially affected. Ninety percent (90%) of the faculty voted in support of this initiative. Professor Reaves thanked Linda Ingalls for providing information on the affected units and for helping us to create a methodology for voting and faculty representation.

A School of Public Health will provide an identity within ECU and outside the university, and improve the research potential at ECU. We will establish a partnership with UNC, and not a competition—a need that everyone understands.

Professor Bowler asked how coding is being carried out. Chaney responded that we are under an HHP provisional code, which is a department-specific code approved at the Faculty Senate meeting in March. This code has provisional language for the beginning and the end. Next year we will spend time getting our department codes, or possibly have a school code that is reviewed and approved within the established timeline. The codes will be in place when we come together in 2020.

Professor McConnell pointed out that there is a task force reviewing graduate faculty criteria and guidelines. He noted that if we move into separate codes, we are all under college codes, unless the Chancellor signs the document allowing us to have department codes. Professor Bailey stated that we are under the new faculty manual with regard to the development of codes.

Professor Reaves acknowledged that resources have been going to the School of Rural Public Health. We will hire a Dean in 2020 and have a school that is on par with other colleges in the university.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the proposal to establish a new School of Rural Public Health and the establishment of provisional codes for the for the Departments of Biostatistics; Health Education and Promotion; Health Services and Information Management, and Public Health was passed unanimously.

Assigned additional duties: N/A

IV. Announcements/Acknowledgments

The committee acknowledged the hard work and assistance of Karen Summey during the academic year for curriculum and program information and updates. Michael Duffy was acknowledged for providing detailed minutes throughout the year. Don Chaney was acknowledged for his leadership and coordination of the committee's business during the school year. Lori Lee was acknowledged for assisting the committee with Faculty Senate coordination, information and updates in 2017-2018.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Duffy