COMMITTEE:  Educational Policies and Planning Committee

MEETING DATE:  14 November 2014

PERSON PRESIDING:  Stellwag

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:  Abdulali, Brown, Das, Neil, Smith, Stellwag, Sugar, Thomas

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:  Bailey, Brown, Little, McConnell, Reaves, Swanner

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:  Lori Lee, Melani Duffrin, Phyllis Horns, Andrew Morehead, Ron Mitchelson, Jane Patton, Judy Siguaw, Stephen Thomas, Kimberly Nicholson, Greg Hassler, Heather Harris-Wright, John Core, David Griffith

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item 1: Approval of October 10th EPPC Meeting Minutes

Discussion:  None

Action Taken:  Approved

Assigned additional duties to:  N/A

Agenda Item 2: Request to relocate the Department of Nutrition Science from the College of Human Ecology to the College of Allied Health Science

Discussion:  In turn, Dean Siguaw, Dean Thomas, Vice Chancellor Horns, Provost Mitchelson, Dr. Jean Patton, Dr. Melani Duffrin, and Dr. John Core provided brief statements about the history of the proposed move, potential issues, relative costs, and curricular changes. Questions related to the total costs of the move (in short term and long term), the clinical direction that the department wants to take, how best to address the concerns of the minority number of Nutrition faculty members who cast dissenting votes, the potential for research and curricular synergy, and the potential benefits for students. Interim Chair Duffrin has worked individually with faculty members to address their concerns, and will continue to do so. Responses suggest that the short-term cost is moderate and that long-term there are significant benefits to the students and to the department, especially considering increased opportunities for collaboration. Of note is that this faculty-driven move has followed the procedures laid out in the Faculty Manual.

Action Taken:  Motion to support relocation passed.

Assigned additional duties to:  Stellwag
Agenda Item 3: Report on the School of the Coast Proposal

Discussion: Dr. David Griffith provided some history behind the proposal, which essentially organizes current initiatives under one roof and highlights the teaching that occurs in addition to the research activities. This proposal can be read in light of two other factors: one is the interest in a joint PhD program with UNC Wilmington on Coastal Studies, and the other is a closer working relationship with the Coastal Studies Institute. Question about who establishes curriculum? They have a committee of people who are CRM faculty who vet curriculum in a fashion similar to the BSUS and the Honors College. This process, however, does not follow procedures established on campus. Concern about lack of a unit code to guide curriculum development among other issues, such as hiring, resource allocation, and promotion and tenure. ICSP has 17 positions, most of which are 49% ICSP appointments with 51% in units that confer tenure; these are permanent assignments. Since tenure is conferred in the department with the majority effort allocation there are questions about how the non-majority unit might provide input on the P&T process. ICSP does have written guidelines for handling issues like those treated in the codes of coded units. Keeping the School as a non-coded unit might help maintain the interdisciplinarity that ICSP faculty currently engage in. Dr. Griffith imagines this as a dynamic group engaged in research and teaching. Clarification that this is informational, not a request for any action from the EPPC, but Dr. Griffith was asked to create a proposal with greater detail in order to address issues of concern and to provide greater clarity to a wider audience.

Action Taken: None.

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

Agenda Item 4: Department of Microbiology and Immunology Program Review

Discussion: Microbiology and Immunology program review was overall positive but acknowledged that some recommendations made by the external reviewers were outside the control of the unit and so could not be addressed according to the SMART criteria used by EPPC to judge the acceptability of the unit response. The unit explained its responses and rationale behind chosen actions quite well. Good example of meeting SMART goals

Action Taken: Motion passed to approve unit’s response.

Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag to issue a memo to the Office of Academic Program Development confirming approval of the unit’s response by EPPC and acknowledging that their response was acceptable according to EPPC’s established standards.

Agenda Item 5: Department of Mathematics, Science and Instructional Technology Education Program Review

Discussion: Committee members request to make the charge to the external reviewers known, whether to put it in the program review or in the unit’s response, since the department claims that the reviewers overstepped the charge. Two of the programs are nationally accredited (by NCATE), and should have been exempted from the program review. Concern was expressed over the fact that the responses which did contend with reviewer recommendations were not specific, the outcome measureable or the plan time-bound.
Action Taken: Motion passed to send the proposal back to the department with comments. Sugar abstained.

Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag

Announcements: 2 program reviews next time and 2 after that.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:30

NEXT MEETING: December 12, 2014

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: 2 program reviews