COMMITTEE:   Educational Policies and Planning Committee

MEETING DATE:   Friday, December 9, 2011

PERSON PRESIDING:   Scott Gordon, Chair

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:   Deedee Glascoff, David Smith, Scott Gordon

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:   Anthony Overton, George Bailey, Thomas McConnell

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:   Karen Summey, Johna Faulconer, Vivian Mott, Barbara Muller-Borer, Tijjani Mohammed, Evelyn Brown, Lori Lee

EXCUSED:   Susan Bashinski, Linner Griffin, George Kasperek, John Kenney, James Holloway, Blaise Williams

ABSENT:   Ed Stellwag, Mark Taggart

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ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item:   Approval of November 11, 2011, EPPC meeting minutes.

Action Taken:   Minutes were approved as presented.

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Agenda Item:   Update on Department of Kinesiology's program review.

Discussion:   Professor Gordon noted that the Department of Kinesiology was working on revising the program review report according to EPPC’s SMART format and would submit it through the appropriate channels in January.

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Agenda Item:   Proposed Department Name Change from Department of Rehabilitation Studies to Department of Addictions and Rehabilitation Studies within the College of Allied Health Sciences.

Discussion:   Professor Gordon noted that the faculty within this academic unit had contacted him following the conditional approval by the EPPC in the November EPPC meeting (dependent upon adding the word “Studies” to the department name). Following discussion, the unit agreed to this change and had received approval for the new name at all subsequent levels prior to the EPPC. Thus, the name change officially received the conditional EPPC approval and was now ready for the proposed name change to go forward to the Faculty Senate and Chancellor for approval.

Action Taken:   There was no discussion and the proposed Department name change was approved as presented.

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Agenda Item:   Request for authorization to establish distance education delivery of the MAEd in Reading Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction within the College of Education.
**Discussion:** It was noted that the materials were very well prepared. It was stated by guests J. Faulconer and V. Mott that there would be no additional resources needed. Professor Faulconer also stated that this new DE delivery would aid their students since most of their current students were working teachers with a large percentage already taking online classes.

**Action Taken:** Following discussion, the request for authorization to establish was approved as presented.

**Agenda Item:** Request for authorization to establish a **MS in Network Technology** in the Department of Technology Systems within the College of Technology and Computer Science.

**Discussion:** It was noted that the materials were well developed and a real need for ECU. Professor Mohammed stated that no additional funding was needed and that at this time coursework would not be offered online in order to grow their on-campus student base.

**Action Taken:** Following discussion, the request for authorization to establish was approved as presented.

**Agenda Item:** Request for authorization to plan a **MS in Biomedical Engineering** in the Department of Engineering within the College of Technology and Computer Science.

**Discussion:** Professor Muller-Borer noted that this request focused on the strengths of the Engineering Department and the growth of Biomedical engineering. She stated that this program would be the 6th in the State with the 5 others currently not graduating enough to meet the needs of the State for additional biomedical engineers to work in hospitals, dental schools, and laboratories. Currently most biomedical engineers are coming from Duke and GA Tech noting that if ECU can educate the students here in eastern NC they are more likely to remain in the area. In reference to resources needed, Professor Muller-Borer noted that the department would begin with the faculty they currently have in addition to a request for 10 graduate assistantships. She noted that they would ask for more faculty in year 3. The MS program would begin with 5 students the first year then 10 thereafter.

It was suggested that the department consider partnering with another University outside of the United States (Germany, France) and include global leadership in their submission materials in order to address the possible duplication of programs already in the State. It was also suggested that feedback be gathered from the 5 existing programs before going forward to General Administration.

**Action Taken:** Following discussion, the request for authorization to plan was approved as presented.

**Agenda Item:** Proposed revisions to the **ECU Faculty Manual, Part 5, Section III. Curriculum Development.**

**Discussion:** Professor Gordon presented proposed revisions to Section III. Curriculum Development to replace "Graduate School Administrative Board" throughout the section with "Graduate Council". It was noted that this could be considered a simple editorial change since there was an actual interim PRR established that eliminated the GSAB.

**Action Taken:** These editorial changes to the **ECU Faculty Manual, Part 5, Section III. Curriculum Development** will be made (by Lori Lee) and reported (by Marianna Walker) to the Faculty Senate as an announcement in January 2012 without further action by EPPC or the Faculty Senate.

**Agenda Item:** Discussion on undergraduate and graduate programs.
Discussion: Professor Bailey noted that General Administration states it is important to educate undergraduate students first however he was concerned with how resources were not keeping up with student enrollment within undergraduate programs and the damage being done. He questioned if graduate programs were paid for by undergraduate enrollment. He suggested that in order to keep the focus on undergraduate education, EPPC should ask, when considering new graduate programs, how the new graduate programs would work with the current undergraduate programs (i.e., not minimizing undergraduate courses, moving undergraduate faculty to graduate faculty, increasing the class sizes of undergraduate courses, etc). It was noted that within the current budget situation, EPPC should remember the strategic directions and work to protect undergraduate education. All present agreed with his points and expressed similar concerns on the devaluing of undergraduate education at ECU.

Professor McConnell noted that in recent years graduate programs generated its own funding and positions. He stated that graduate student enrollment has accounted for a significant amount of ECU’s enrollment increase funding via the UNC funding matrix model which generated an increase in student credit hours.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, January 13, 2012 at 1 pm in 142 Rawl Annex.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: To be determined by Professor Scott Gordon at a later date.

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