COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning Committee

MEETING DATE: 6 December 2013

PERSON PRESIDING: Stellwag

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Abdulali, Das, Glascoff, Kenney, Smith, Stellwag, Sugar, Thomas

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bailey, McConnell, Reaves, Sprague

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: L. Lee (Faculty Senate), E. Fogarty (Education), A. F. Thomas (English), C. Ulffers (Music), Neil and Raman (Nursing), D. Maher (Philosophy), L. Kean and D. Thomson (Communication),

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ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Call to order at 1:01

Agenda Item: October meeting minutes approved as distributed.

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Old Business

Agenda Item 1: Dance Program Academic Program Review

Discussion: The unit’s responses were impressive, especially considering the limitations on additional faculty lines and improved facilities that are not in their control.

Action Taken: Motion passed to approve the 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.

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Agenda Item 2: Department of Psychology Academic Program Review

Discussion: The unit provided good responses. Even though they cannot control adding faculty lines, they did discuss shifting workloads to deal with their situation.

Action Taken: Motion passed to approve the 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.
New Business

Agenda Item 1: Request for authorization to establish a New Distance Education Program – MAEd in Elementary Education in the College of Education.

Discussion: This is essentially a change of an existing program that has been going online more and more. Enrollment has recently declined, but the College expects it to increase again in the future.

Action Taken: Motion passed.

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 2: Request for authorization to establish a New Distance Education Program – MAEd in Middle Grades Education in the College of Education.

Discussion: See above. Also, UNC General Administration may be interested in this as a “satellite program.”

Action Taken: Motion passed.

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 3: Request to create a Minor in Creative Writing in the Department of English

Discussion: Existing resources are sufficient. There is only one other Creative Writing in the system, and it is very different than ours. A survey of existing students revealed a high degree of interest. Clarification on working with affected departments on offering of cognate courses, and scientific writing versus literary journalism.

Action Taken: Motion passed.

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 4: Request to discontinue BM in Music Theory Composition in School of Music

Discussion: Low enrollment, so want to discontinue it here but permit students to have it as a concentration available in the new BM Music. Nothing in coursework changes, even though degree will be different. Music faculty approved all these actions last spring. SACS was notified that it was in process; UNCGA will remove it from their program inventory. Students who are in this program will be able to finish their degree, while new incoming students will begin the coursework under the new degree name. Is there any effect on accreditation? National Association of Schools of Music is aware of campuses having to do this, but they focus on accrediting programs, rather than specific degrees. What will the School do if this part is approved but not renaming of degree? They would have to reconsider renaming degree and bringing back. Might also require revisions to ECU's Academic Program Plan.

Action Taken: Motion passed.
Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 5: Request to retitle BM in Performance to BM in Music in the School of Music

Discussion: This is not a low-performing program, so will be renamed and given the more general CIP-code, as well as adding new concentrations. There will be a 30-hour core, with 56-hour concentrations. Suggestion to look for similar programs to demonstrate this sort of arrangement, especially any in the UNC system.

Action Taken: Motion passed.

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 6: Request to add three new concentrations to the retitled BM in Music degree in the School of Music

Discussion: Students newly-enrolling in program would only be able to select BM Music, without listing of each of these concentrations. What is the projected number of majors? This new degree would account for about 60% of School of Music’s total enrollment. Schools in California, Texas, and perhaps other states are also making similar changes.

Action Taken: Motion passed

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 7: Request to offer an Accelerated Second Degree BS Nursing option in the College of Nursing

Discussion: This would not be a new degree, but would instead be a third way to gain the BSN (already have 2 ways). Courses have already been approved by the University Curriculum Committee, and no new resources are needed. Expectation for enrollment is about 20 students for the first year, based on current alternate entry program (which would be phased out).

Action Taken: Motion passed

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 8: Request to discontinue the Alternate Entry MS Nursing degree in the College of Nursing

Discussion: Will need to create the teach-out plan as part of process. Currently-enrolled students will finish by the second summer session of 2014. Will also need to go through College’s Graduate Faculty, so should be postponed.

Action Taken: Motion passed to postpone
Assigned additional duties to: College representatives.

Agenda Item 9: Request for authorization to establish a New Distance Education Degree Program – MA in Communication (emphasis on Health Communication) in the School of Communication

Discussion: The School’s MA program is in its 8th year, and they have started to offer online courses, populated in part by graduate students from other disciplines. Feasibility study supported both a certificate and a DE degree. There is no program like this in the state.

Action Taken: Motion passed

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 10: Request to change the name of the Department of Philosophy in the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Discussion: Now the Department houses 4 faculty with PhD’s in religious studies, and they make a significant contribution to the work of the department. No change in CIP code or degrees. This change has already been approved by faculty, chair, dean, and VC.

Action Taken: Motion passed

Assigned additional duties to:

Agenda Item 11: Discuss "Status of Academic Program Planning" document

Discussion: Universities can only have 3 programs at GA at any one time. We have been told by GA that the PhD in Economics will be kept on hold. Question about the rank order of these requests. Only 1 new addition (DrPH) was sent after the last call. EPPC will make a recommendation to Faculty Senate, who will recommend to Chancellor. Question about how to prioritize this list and which programs should take the top three spots. Priorities include topics such as these: uniqueness of program, expected enrollment, cost, need, and readiness. Additional priorities include these: connection to strategic plan, demonstrated ability to take ECU to an aspirational level. Move given the short turn-around time: BA in Religious Studies first and MA in Hispanic Studies second. Motion passed. Request for more time to provide a more thorough review of priorities and the programs on ECU’s list so that we may make a more studied recommendation to Faculty Senate.

Action Taken: Motion passed is two-fold: first, to prioritize BA in Religious Studies first and MA in Hispanic Studies second if we must send feedback in short order; second is to request more time to conduct a more thorough review and make a more in-depth report to Faculty Senate.

Assigned additional duties to:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None
MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:10
NEXT MEETING: February 14, 2014 unless called