COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning Committee

MEETING DATE: 12 December 2014

PERSON PRESIDING: Stellwag

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

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lori Lee, Ben Fraser, Clifton Watts, Derek Maher

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ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item 1: Approval of November 14th EPPC Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None

Action Taken: Approved

Assigned additional duties to: N/A

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Agenda Item 2: Request from the Department of Foreign Languages to consolidate all of its major programs (B.A. in French, B.S. in French, B.A. in German, B.S. in German, B.A. in Hispanic Studies, B.S. in Hispanic Studies Education) into one single B.A. program called Foreign Languages and Literatures, and to establish six concentrations in French, French Education, German, German Education, Hispanic Studies and Hispanic Studies Education.

Discussion: Faculty voted on this prior to Dr. Fraser’s arrival; following a nationwide trend toward consolidation, and following the same process that NC State recently followed. Keeps structure of concentrations as they were. The concentrations will be reflected on the transcript. Affected programs, including those in the College of Education have signed off. Streamlines assessment in TracDat

Action Taken: Motion passed to consolidate programs; Smith abstained

Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag

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Agenda Item 3: Request from the Department of Health Services & Information Management to remove the Thesis and Non-thesis Options in the MS in Health Informatics and Information Management degree program and to add a Health Informatics option to the MS in Health Informatics and Information Management degree program

Discussion: Dr. Paul Bell was not able to attend. Rather than removing thesis and non-thesis options, the proposal seems to combine the two options rather than eliminate one.

Action Taken: Motion tabled and invitation to a department representative to describe requested changes at a future committee meeting.
Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag

Agenda Item 4: Request from the Department of Recreation and Leisure studies to eliminate concentrations in Outdoor Recreation, Community and Nonprofit Recreation, Recreational Sport Leadership and Commercial Recreation and Tourism in the B.S. in Recreation and Parks Management.

Discussion: Dr. Clif Watts described the context of the request. The self-study conducted as part of a re-accreditation led to feedback suggesting that we strengthen core and allow more flexibility for students. Content is still there; it's just not as compartmentalized.

Action Taken: Motion passed to eliminate concentrations. Jordan abstained.

Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag.

Agenda Item 5: Request from the Thomas Harriott College of Arts and Sciences to remove the college level restriction on declaring a major.

Discussion: Dr. Derek Maher provided the background on the request. Impediment to students that is not the same as imposed by four other colleges. Hurts the college in pre-advising.

Action Taken: Motion passed to remove the restriction.

Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag.

Agenda Item 4: Low productivity program report and discussion

Discussion: Rita Reaves provided the report. Committee members looked at frequency of ECU programs appearing on low-productivity program reports since 1999. GA report received in September 2014 identifying 40 low productivity programs; information sent to Deans with unit response to GA required. Deans/Chairs discussed potential responses during October and then recommended responses to Academic Council in November. The Academic Council responded to GA, communicating our intent to discontinue/restructure 14 programs and our intent to retain 26 programs. For 23 of the 26 programs, the units described specific steps to increase enrollment. EPPC will identify 3 members to work with Academic Program Planning to review low productivity program listings and potential actions to increase enrollment: David Smith, Deb Jordan, and Ed Stellwag volunteered, and will also report back to this committee. We must keep in mind the differentiation between education and training--we are here for education. Must also keep in mind that low-productivity often means "small programs," but small programs may still have important roles to play. Next step is that Dr. Katharine Stewart, Vice President for Academic Planning and Quality, UNC-GA reviews all plans from all institutions and meets with all provosts to discuss those recommendations. In April, the Board of Governors will hear all schools' responses to the low productivity reports.

Action Taken: Formation of working group of EPPC members and OAPPD staff.

Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag/Reaves
Agenda Item 4: Institute for Coastal Science and Policy, and Coastal Resources Management Program review

Discussion: The response to the program review included many responses which were not specific, not time-bound, and did not provide measurable criteria. The beginning of the program review document does include what the review team was asked to review.

Action Taken: Motion to return the response and request additional details. Reaves abstained.

Assigned additional duties to: Stellwag.

Agenda Item 4: Department of Child Development and Family Relations Program's Unit Academic Program Review

Discussion: Drs. Jordan and Stellwag led the discussion. Response to program review addressed the concerns in measurable, time-bound criteria. In general the review was laudatory.

Action Taken: Motion passed to accept the response to the program review; Reaves abstained.

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 4: Department of Sociology Unit Academic Program Review.

Discussion: Drs. Smith and Stellwag led the discussion. Response to program review addressed the issues in measurable, time-bound criteria in general. Written clearly.

Action Taken: Motion passed to accept the response; Reaves abstained.

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 Physics Unit Academic Program Review.

Discussion: Drs. Das and Stellwag led the discussion. Response to program review addressed the concerns in clear, measurable, time-bound criteria. In some cases the department has already addressed the issues. Thorough and practical.

Action Taken: Motion passed to accept the response; Reaves abstained.

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.
Announcements: 2 program reviews for the February meeting: Sugar and Stellwag will lead the review of HEP, and Smith and Stellwag will lead the review of History.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:01

NEXT MEETING: February 13, 2015

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: 2 program reviews