

COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning Committee

MEETING DATE: March 18th, 2013 Called to Order: 2:00 PM.

PERSON PRESIDING: Ed Stellwag, Chair

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Ed Stellwag, John Kenney, Joseph Thomas, Kanchan Das, Salman Abdulali

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Linner Griffin, Thomas McConnell, Mark Sprague, Jeff Popke

MEMBERS ABSENT: George Bailey, DeeDee Glascoff, Leigh Patterson, David Smith

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Deb Jordan (Chair, Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies), Marieke Van Willigen (Women's Studies Director, Interim Chair Sociology)

ACTIONS OF MEETING

AGENDA ITEM: Resolve issues with request to consider the discontinuation of the MS degree in Recreational Therapy Administration.

Jordan presented the request from the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies to discontinue the MS in RTA. At present there are two MS degrees both with borderline enrollment. The proposed plan seeks to remedy this by discontinuing the RTA, taking coursework from the core and making RTA a concentration within Recreation and Parks Administration (RPA) degree. Although the program in RTA is the largest in the state and one of three in the country that attracts strong undergraduates, it cannot be sustained as a stand -alone degree program. The intention is to list the RTA concentration on the diploma to mitigate the disadvantage to students whose primary interest lies in the RTA field.

Existing students in the RTA degree program will receive the degree. New applicants will be directed to the RPA degree program with the understanding that this program will include a concentration in RTA.

Committee members asked about whether students will be able to get the degree after termination under all circumstances. It was resolved that clarification on this issue is needed and that the department should seek the advice of the university attorney's office on this issue.

Action Taken: Motion from Kenney seconded by Stellwag to approve discontinuation of the MS RTA degree program. Motion was approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Department of Educational Leadership (LEED) Academic Program Review.

Discussion: The committee was complimentary of the manner in which the program review had been prepared. They were particularly impressed with organization and summary in response to program reviewer's critiques. This well organized format facilitated a clear and efficient , response. The LEED response to the review communicated the sincere intention of faculty to address concerns in the near and long-term by working together on clearly defined goals in a well delineated time frame.

Action Taken:

Motion from Kenney, seconded by Stellwag: We find the documents associated with the Department of the LEED Unit Academic Program Review to be in good order." The motion was approved. Griffin abstained.

AGENDA ITEM: Higher, Adult and Counselor Education (HACE) Unit Academic Program Review.

Discussion: In general, HACE provided useful constructive responses to the program review committee's critiques. However, EPPC committee members Das, Popke Stellwag and Thomas expressed concern about the lack of specific target dates for actionable plans in their response under headings related to 1) refinement and documentation of a clear cohort and course delivery model, 2) course rotation, and 3) efficient course delivery. Motion by Das seconded by Kenney to provide specific dates for actionable plans. In the discussion of the

motion Kenney proposed an amendment to clarify where in the response document dates are needed by listing the actionable items that require specific dates.

Action Taken: Amended motion reading, the revised response from HACE should provide specific dates for actionable items described under response headings 1) refinement and documentation of a clear cohort and course delivery model; 2) course rotation discussion, and 3) efficient course delivery. Motion was approved. Griffin abstained.

AGENDA ITEM: Request to discontinue the BA in Women's Studies.

Van Willigen, Women's Studies program director, presented the request to discontinue the program. She began the presentation by stating that the faculty who contribute to the program are not in favor of discontinuation but that the program's consistently low performance in generating graduates, coupled with the lack of administrative support at all levels necessitated program discontinuation. Committee members asked how students in the program will be affected by program termination. The director will continue to teach courses in the program until enrolled students have completed it. However, no additional students will be recruited into the program. Further questions centered on whether courses in the Women's Studies BA will continue to be offered. The plan is for existing courses to be offered as part of a minor in Women's Studies.

Action Taken: Motion was made by Kenney and seconded to approve the request to discontinue the BA in Women's Studies. Motion was approved unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS: Unit Academic Program Review update.

At the February EPPC meeting the Task Force for Academic Program Review was requested to consider changes to the policy for program review as it pertains to programs not in code units and asks that a report be returned to EPPC by its March meeting. Dr. Griffin reported that she modified the Unit Academic Review document according to the requested changes by EPPC. These changes were highlighted in blue on pages 6 and 7. Dr. Griffin further reported that all eight (8) of the task force members agreed with the changes.

Action Taken: Motion by Kenney, seconded by Das to approve the changes to the Task Force for Academic Program Review document that were introduced by Dr. Griffin and approved by the Task Force. Motion was approved. Griffin abstained.

Announcements: Griffin complimented Dr. Sprague on forwarding a respectful but forthright e-mail to the Chancellor questioning actions taken in the Recreation Therapy Administration discontinuation.

Sprague provided an announcement and brief discussion concerning the Governor's proposed budget and the implications this might have for academic programs and policies.

Meeting adjourned 4:10 PM.