

COMMITTEE: Educational Policies and Planning

MEETING DATE: Friday, December 6, 2019 (142 Rawl Annex)

PERSON PRESIDING: Mark Bowler

ATTENDANCE

Regular members: Paige Averett, Mark Bowler, Don Chaney, John Collins, Bryna Coonin, Michael Dingfelder, Donna Kain

Ex-officio Members (with vote): George Bailey, Ruth Little, Tom McConnell

Call to order: 1:00 pm

AGENDA ITEM #1: Approval of November 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

AGENDA ITEM #2: Approval of October 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

AGENDA ITEM #3: Request to Discontinue a Degree Program – MA in Education in Birth through Kindergarten

Unit: Department of Human Development and Family Science

Representative: Dr. Archama Hegde

DISCUSSION: Dr. Hegde provided context for this. A straightforward request.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

AGENDA ITEM #4: Department APR Response - Biology

Unit: Department of Biology

Representatives: Dr. Cindy Putnam-Evans, Dr. David Chalcraft

DISCUSSION: Dr. Chalcraft represented the biology faculty for this discussion. John Collins was the EPPC rep. The report indicated that the unit was strong and a significant asset to the campus - very positive. Report did identify a few challenges – inconsistencies in undergrad advising, some financial concerns around the graduate program (absence of tuition support in particular) which interferes with attracting students. Some concerns were voiced about the life sciences building which results in separating faculty and may interfere with departmental

culture. Concerns were also raised over teaching loads for masters' students. Chalcraft detailed department's specific plans to address these concerns. Kain brought up a broader, recurring issue – that departments are being asked to 'do more and more with less and less.' Kain has agreed to track this issue based on what is coming through EPPC.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved, with one abstention

AGENDA ITEM #5: Department APR Response – Computer Science
Unit: Department of Computer Science
Representative: Venkat Gudivada

DISCUSSION: Dr. Gudivada represented the department. John Collins was the EPPC rep. The APR report recommended that faculty should engage students more in the classroom. The department received a grant in 2017 to help change the culture of the department. Collins asked about advising, which the external reviewers asked about. Students are frustrated about advising. Collins asked about whether a study had been done to know how students succeed and whether using the predictors (standardized test scores) the department is now using are sufficient. Gudivada commented on this. Collins thought it was a good APR response.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

AGENDA ITEM #6: Department APR Response – Department of Kinesiology
Unit: Department of Kinesiology
Representatives: Dr. Joonkoo Yun, Dr. Stacy Altman, Dr. Don Chaney

DISCUSSION: Dr. Don Chaney was the EPPC rep. Dr. Joonkoo Yun represented the department in this discussion. Dr. Yun came into this process very late, when he was hired to replace chair Stacy Altman. The report noted financial concerns for masters' students. Concerns about maximizing recruitment efforts were also voiced. Report asked whether a common core was needed. The report indicated that more grant-writing instruction for PhD students is also recommended. Space issues were noted. Dr. Yun detailed the department's responses to the largely very positive report.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

AGENDA ITEM #7: Request to Establish – MS in Planning and Development
Unit: Department of Geography, Planning, & Environment
Representatives: Dr. Misun Hur, Dr. Thad Wasklewicz

DISCUSSION: Degree is fully online because it is needed mostly by professionals, who are usually working in place and cannot physically come to campus. The department is getting a lot

of requests for this. McConnell asked about competition with other similar programs and but ECU is focusing on rural aspects, where other programs focus on urban. Two faculty positions are requested but no money for these is identified. As they cannot move forward with this program without the budget lines – should we approve a program which is not likely to receive the funding to exist? The proposed start time is two years out. The department was asked to do plan this by their Deans and the Graduate School. This situation echoes the situation discussed by Kain earlier in this meeting (Agenda item #4).

ACTION TAKEN: Approved. One opposed.

AGENDA ITEM #8: Request to Deliver Existing Degree Program Hybrid – MA.Ed in Mathematics Education, High School Concentration
Unit: Department of Mathematics, Science, and Instructional Technology
Representative: Dr. Ron Preston

DISCUSSION: In attempt to align that masters' program with all of the others in their department, all of which are already offered as distance education.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

AGENDA ITEM #9: Request to Deliver Existing Degree Program Online – MM in Music, Music Education Concentration
Unit: College of Fine Arts and Communication
Representative: Dr. Jay Juchniewicz

DISCUSSION: This concentration was already online before it moved to its new 'home' as part of the MM in Music reorganization. Request is largely administrative.

ACTION TAKEN: Approved

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none at this time

NEXT MEETING: Friday January 17, 2020

ADJOURNMENT: 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryna Coonin,
Secretary
EPPC

