Academic Program Review Council
Report to the Senate Spring 2022

Date: 04 May 2022
To: Academic Senate
From: Academic Program Review Council
Subject: Recommendations to the Academic Senate

Academic program review began at Ferris in 1988 and has continued uninterrupted since 1995. This record speaks well of the long-term commitment of Ferris faculty and administration to comprehensive program assessment and continuous quality improvement.

Each year, the Academic Program Review Council (APRC) presents recommendations for Senate consideration. The recommendations are presented in three categories – program-specific, process-related, and general.

These recommendations are the product of work performed over the course of the academic year by APRC faculty members and administrators, as well as degree program representatives. The APRC met weekly for two hours over Zoom throughout the Fall and Spring semesters to review submitted reports, with additional time spent reading and evaluating the reports between meetings.

All faculty members bear a responsibility not just for their own courses and programs, but also for preserving the integrity and value of the University's entire curriculum. By participating in this process, we affirm the importance of the role that faculty play in decision-making about academic programs. We would like to publicly thank the members of the 2021/2022 Academic Program Review Council. Program review is a time-consuming and challenging endeavor which council members accepted with hard work and dedication.

2021-2022 APRC Members
Katie Axford – College of Pharmacy (Co-Chair)
Alex Cartwright – College of Business (Co-Chair)
Stacy Anderson – FLITE Librarian
Piram Prakasam – College of Arts, Sciences & Education (*Spring 2022*)
Varun Singireddy – College of Business
Michele Harvey – College of Engineering Technology (*Fall 2021*)
Mary Beaudry – College of Health Professions (*Fall 2021*)
Gregg Potter – College of Pharmacy (*Spring 2022*)
Namita Giri – College of Pharmacy (At Large)
Mandy Seiferlein – Academic Affairs (Ex Officio)

Respectfully,

Katie Axford and Alex Cartwright, APRC Co-Chairs

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Summary of 2021-2022 Work

The following programs were reviewed by the APRC during the Fall 2021 semester:

- Automotive Management (BS and Minor)
- Biology (BS and Minor) and Cell and Molecular Biology (Minor)
- Digital Media Software Engineering (BS) and Machine Learning (Certificate)
- Health Care Systems Administration (BS) and Long Term Care (Certificate)
- Heavy Equipment Service Engineering Technology (BS) and Heavy Equipment Technology (AAS)
- Honors Bachelor's Certificate and Honors Associate Certificate
- Liberal Arts (AA)
- Spanish for the Professions (BS), Spanish (Minor), and French (Minor)

The following programs were reviewed by the APRC during the Spring 2022 semester:

- Accountancy (BS, AAS, and Minor), Accountancy/Finance (BS), Accountancy/Computer Information Systems (BS), Computerized Business Applications (Certificate), Forensic Accounting (Certificate), and Advanced Studies in Accounting (Certificate)
- Business Administration (MBA)
- Business Core Program – *review pending*
- Business Data Analytics (BS) and Data Analytics (Certificate)
- Computer Information Technology (BS)
- Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement Specialist Option (BS)
- Facility Management (BS and Certificate), Facility Planning Management (Minor), and Facility Operations Management (Minor)
- Finance (BS and Minor) and Advanced Studies in Investment (Certificate)
- Healthcare Administration (MHA)
- Integrative Studies (BS) – *follow-up reporting from Fall 2020*
- Military Science (Minor) – *follow-up reporting from Fall 2020, awaiting signature page*

The following programs were scheduled for review during AY2021/22 and did not report, but worked with the APRC to reschedule reporting based on individual program circumstances:

- Automotive Service Technology (AAS)
- Electrical/Electronics Engineering Technology (BS), Industrial Electronics Technology (AAS), and Industrial Control Systems (Minor)
- Fleet Management (Minor and Certificate)
- Information Security and Intelligence (MS, AAS, and Minor), Digital Forensics/Cybersecurity (Minor and Certificate), Cloud Computing (Certificate), Cybersecurity (Certificate), and Cybersecurity: Ethical Hacking (Certificate)
- Mechanical Engineering Technology (BS and AAS)
- Political Science (BS and Minor)
- Product Design Engineering Technology (BS) and Product Design (Certificate) – *follow-up reporting from Fall 2020*

- Professional Tennis Management (BS)
- Public Health (BS, MPH, and Minor)
- Quality Leadership (Certificate)
- Sociology (BA and Minor)
- Welding Engineering Technology (BS) and Welding Technology (AAS)
- Women and Gender Studies (Minor)

The following programs were scheduled for review during AY2021/22 and did not submit a report or communicate with APRC to discuss opportunities for rescheduling:

- Biochemistry (BA), Chemistry (BA), Industrial Chemistry (BS), and Industrial Chemistry Technology (AAS)
- CAD Drafting and Tool Design Technology (AAS) - *program currently not admitting students*
- Computer Networks and Systems (BS) and Computer Networking (Minor and Certificate)

Recommendations for APR Process Improvements

These recommendations are intended to make the academic program review process more efficient, effective, and consistent.

1. The APRC recommends scheduling periodic update meetings with the Associate Provost to discuss the status of previous recommendations.
2. The APRC recommends continuing to host "APR Office Hours" at least twice each semester to provide program faculty the opportunity to ask questions related to the APR process and expectations.

General Recommendations

General recommendations of the APRC are intended to accompany and complement the recommendations for specific academic programs. They also address policy issues broadly relevant to program review.

1. The APRC recommends Senate leadership work to ensure all Colleges and units are appropriately represented on the APRC.
2. The APRC recommends continued investigation and consideration of the opportunities to integrate Nuventive Improve and Canvas to streamline documentation of assessment data.
3. The APRC recommends routinely offering training/professional development related to the utilization of the Nuventive Improve platform.

Recommendation for Academic Affairs

1. The APRC encourages Academic Affairs to develop an Academic Master Plan. Such a plan would outline the priorities and direction of the academic enterprise. Colleges could use this plan to guide their strategic planning, and, in turn, the APRC could evaluate program plans in light of this master plan.
2. The APRC encourages Academic Affairs to offer a mechanism for programs to review final actions and engage in discussion with the Provost's Office.
3. Response rates to the Graduate Follow-Up Survey administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Testing are consistently low. As many programs rely on this data as a metric of graduate success, the APRC recommends collaboration across the University to improve response rates to allow for more meaningful interpretation.
4. The APRC recommends further exploration, collaboration, and development of marketing and recruitment strategies to more specifically target programs and support enrollment.
5. The APRC recommends further exploration and development of services offered by the Office of Graduate Studies to support the students enrolled in graduate and professional programs (e.g., graduate writing center).

Recommendations for College Leadership

1. The APRC recommends development of a mechanism for Deans to be more involved in the APR process. Encourage Deans to include a narrative as an addendum to the program self-study report describing how the program aligns with the College strategic plan and addressing resource needs identified by the program.
2. The APRC recommends the Dean's Office regularly establish and communicate an internal timeline and parties responsible for submitting reports to APRC.