

Report of the Academic Planning Council to the University Council 2018-2019

The Academic Planning Council (APC) is charged by the University *Constitution and Bylaws* with assisting the executive vice president and provost in developing academic priorities and plans for the university, conducting the regular reviews of academic programs and centers, and addressing other academic issues related to the university mission, including the establishment of priorities in budgeting. The Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee of the NIU Board of Trustees review the materials and recommendations that emerge from the work of the APC. The Board of Trustees approves any programmatic items requiring board action prior to being forwarded to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).

The Program Review Report will be submitted to the IBHE in August 2019. The report will focus on maintaining quality through continuous program improvement.

The programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for review in 2018-2019 were the:

- B.A./B.S. in Philosophy
- M.A. in Philosophy
- M.S.T. – Mathematics Education
- B.S. in Chemistry
- M.S. in Chemistry
- Ph.D. in Chemistry

The programs in the College of Education scheduled for review in 2018-2019 were the:

- M.A.T. in Elementary Education
- B.S. in Kinesiology
- M.S. in Sport Management
- B.S.Ed. in Middle Level Teaching and Learning
- B.S.Ed. in Elementary Education
- M.S.Ed. in Literacy Education
- B.S.Ed. in Special Education
- M.S.Ed. in Special Education
- B.S. in Early Childhood Education
- M.S.Ed. in Early Childhood Education
- M.S.Ed. in Adult and Higher Education
- Ed.D. in Adult and Higher Education

The programs in the College of Health and Human Sciences scheduled for review in 2018-2019 were the:

- B.S. in Communicative Disorders
- M.A. in Communicative Disorders
- Doctor of Audiology
- B.S. in Public Health
- Master in Public Health
- B.S. in Health Sciences

The program in the College of Law scheduled for review in 2018-2019 was the:

Juris Doctor (J.D.)

The IBHE also requires that the university review organized research and public service centers on a regular schedule. During 2018-2019, the following center was reviewed:

Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic

The Vice President for the Division of Research and Innovation Partnerships (RIPS) also reported on the research center reviews undertaken by RIPS for:

Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Language and Literacy (CISLL)
Northern Illinois Center for Accelerator and Detector Development (NICADD)
Center for the Study of Family Violence and Sexual Assault (CSFVSA)

The faculty members of the APC work in subcommittees charged with the responsibility for intensive reviews of the programs scheduled in the review cycle. They meet with college and departmental representatives to discuss the program review documents and then report their findings and recommendations for future action at a meeting of the full APC. Deans, chairs, and other departmental representatives attend meetings in order to respond to the subcommittee reports and answer questions from the APC.

The APC subcommittee reports serve as a basis for the final revisions of the program reviews and for the recommendations for the future. Two subcommittees reviewed programs in 2018-2019. The chair position for each of the subcommittees was rotated through all members in 2018-2019.

The APC met a total of nine times beginning on September 24, 2018 and ending on April 22, 2019. The agenda is dictated by the program review schedule, and broader topics that need discussion.

The APC endorsed the proposal for the following new programs: the B.S. in Statistics and the B.S. in Actuarial Science within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; the Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering and the Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering within the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology.

Other items of business discussed by the APC included follow-up and interim reports requested by APC subcommittees in prior years; budget; the Program Review process review; HLC June 2018 Assurance Argument; the relationship between UAP & APC; and update and dialogue with the EBC.

Summaries of the program reviews conducted in 2018-2019 will be forwarded to the NIU Board of Trustees and the IBHE in August 2019. These materials are available upon request from the provost's office (753.8378).

Respectfully submitted,



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Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness