

Program Viability Committee Meeting Summary Notes

March 12th, 2018

Members Present: Lisa Hooper, David Andrus, Albert Loaiza, Dan Portillo, Jason Burgdorfer, Patrick Backes

I. Regina Blasberg - Green Gardener Noncredit Proposal

Lisa gave a background on how some noncredit proposals have already been vetted through herself, Omar and Patrick to see if the courses fit an unmet need.

Regina – until recently, the Santa Clarita Valley had five separate water agencies, four of those agencies merged and now the fifth agency has merged into the single agency. We have four sets of Advisory Committee minutes showing that industry supports this program. The Advisory Committee representative from the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency has requested the Green Gardner program. Castaic Lake Water Agency allowed an employee 40 hours to help develop this program with Regina. These courses will be hosted at the Castaic Lake Water Agency facility so no facilities needed on campus. The agency has staff members that are qualified to teach these courses and they will provide materials necessary (plants, etc.) to teach these courses. SCV Water will also be giving incentives for people who take these courses such as badges and having their names listed on SCV Water website as completing this program. Incentives for employers to send their employees to take these courses as well, the Employers Company will be listed on website too. Online offerings may be an option for these courses.

David - General Noncredit question, when do we know that a Noncredit Certificate will satisfy needs of industry? Employers care more about the content that the students are learning, not so much that they receive a certificate. Regina - CTE Liaison, Data coach positions within the faculty for each school and/or program will help this.

A motion was made by David Andrus to approve the Green Gardner proposal; second by Albert Loaiza. All in favor: Unanimous.

II. Regina Blasberg – Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Noncredit Proposal

Lisa - Do you need to possess certain skills before taking these courses? Regina - at the beginning no, toward some of the ending courses it could a little more difficult. Student could still get through the class but may not benefit as much. This could also spark interest in novices who take the first couple noncredit courses to jump into the credit Land Surveying program. This program is directed at the industry as whole, new technology skills for employees that will make them more marketable to employers. More of an upscaling of current employees, which does not belong on the credit side.

Lisa - Could these courses be electives in the Land Surveying credit program? Regina – The Land Surveying Credit program goal is to prepare students for LSTI exam (state exam). Outside of maybe a question or two, none of the content from the noncredit courses would be on the State exam.

David - Why did UC Riverside stop offering this program? Regina – This program was offered through the UC Riverside Extension site, internally it fell apart due to staffing issues, etc. The Land Surveying Advisory Committee has been asking for this for two years now, we did not have a venue for it in the past but with noncredit we now have a venue for it. Two industry representative are supporting this and helping with curriculum development.

Albert - Can employees get this training on the job through employer? Regina - Some will, it can be included by company if they buy the equipment, but can be pricey. Union and non-union shops in surveying, training could be included on union side. Equipment is not cheap, training only be provided by these third parties in LA and Orange County.

David - Does the advisory board represent all of Los Angeles County? Regina – We have a representative from L.A. County, a representative from the City of Los Angeles, representatives from private companies in Santa Clarita, representative from a large private company in Downtown Los Angeles, and a representative from the Department of Transportation.

Lisa – This looks to be approximately a 70-80 hour program, and maybe a yearlong commitment for current employees? Regina - Talking about rolling these courses out on weekends with a workshop feel, 8 hours per day.

Regina - Curriculum came from UC riverside but was not flushed out well, have in touch with former UC Riverside instructors, not pushing too hard yet, working within industry more. The Advisory board wants this program and has asked for this for more than 2 years. Administration is on board since advisory board wants it, worthwhile thing to do, will be helpful for surveying industry as a whole.

A motion was made by Albert Loaiza to approve the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) proposal; second by Dan Portillo. All in favor: Unanimous.

III. Ceramics

-Lisa updated the committee on the Ceramics course proposal that came to curriculum committee in spring 2017. The curriculum committee did not move forward with the Ceramics course proposal as there were unanswered questions about the funding for the necessary equipment and the necessary space to house this course. The department may have some funding coming in to support this courses but that has not yet been fully resolved.

IV. Environmental Science Recommendation to merge with Biology Status.

Lisa - The departments do not want to proceed with this recommendation now, should the proposal be rescinded or should it go to Senate for the departments to make a case on why the Senate should not approve it? No timeline has been set yet, the recommendation is listed as unfinished business in the Senate. Should a request be submitted to Program Viability that unanimously shows the departments want to rescind proposals and we consider to recommend this to Senate. It could come from Jeannie but needs to show all parties involved are in agreement.

Albert - Request needs to show our recommendation was based on the information that was provided to us, and we made our decision on good faith. Program Viability did work on this and it needs to be closed this year one way or another.

V. BP & AP changes.

David - Requesting that Program Viability does not review the splitting and merging of Departments, should not be entertained unless all stakeholder are represented. Have mixed feelings about taking away from committee, could make argument both ways. AP needs to be updated regardless, not just because of this situation. Program Viability AP & BP have been cleaned up, expanding for revitalization, Jerry reviewed these documents and made a lot of notes and incorporated his ideas. Jerry asked why the Program Viability committee is not an action committee, and why is the Senate reviewing what Program Viability does (related to programs, not splitting/merging of academic departments) time and effort is put into what Program Viability does so why is the Senate doing it again.