

**INDIANA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SEMINAR**

**UPDATE  
DEPARTMENT STUDENT  
SUCCESS INITIATIVES**

DECEMBER 12, 2014



# Overview of Seminar



- Department Success Task Force Recommendations and Policy Changes
- Productivity Update
- Curriculum
- Special Initiatives

# Department Success Task Force



- Appointed Fall 2013
- Charges
  - Define Department Success
  - Identify issues/barriers that hinder success
  - Examine role of department chairperson
  - Make recommendation to address identified issues

**Faculty Senate Reviewed Recommendations and approved numerous policy changes to Sections 310, 350, and 351 of University Handbook.**

# Department Success Task Force Recommendations - 351

- Defined a Successful department and recommended new Handbook language for Section 351.

**Successful Departments**-A successful academic department engages students and prepares them in learning, and prepares them academically for post-collegiate life; a successful department facilitates faculty achievement in teaching, scholarship, and service to enhance student success and institutional reputation; a successful department works cooperatively to meet departmental and institutional goals; and a successful department promotes an effective working and learning environment for all.

# Department Success Task Force Recommendations - 310


- Recommendations related to Section 310 - Faculty Roles and Responsibilities.
  - Required University wide course evaluations
  - Strengthen importance of instructional evaluations in faculty evaluation system for tenure, promotion, & reappointment
  - Clarified importance of faculty defining basis of grades in syllabus, requiring timely feedback on course assignments, and using Blackboard(instructional computer system) as gradebook
  - Clarified numerous issues related to student attendance policies and reporting requirements of faculty
  - Clarified requirement that faculty are to respond to student inquiries in a timely fashion.

# Department Success Task Force Recommendations - 350

- Numerous changes to Section 350 which are designed to clarify and enhance the role of department chairperson and effectiveness of department
- Reaffirmed and strengthen the important leadership role that a department chairperson plays within the University
- Clarified role in terms of curricular programming and course scheduling
- Added role of chairperson in leading departments to focus on student success
- Clarified and enhanced role and responsibility of chairperson in improving faculty performance and in responding to faculty performance issues.

# Curriculum Review Background





- Fall 2013, all departments began a review of bachelor's degree programs to ensure that:
    - The majors were under 72 semester hours
    - A student could complete the major in 6 semesters or less.
  - These changes were in addition to the change that the BOT and Indiana Legislature made in 2012-13 limiting the total hours for bachelor's degree to 120 semester hours. All programs are in compliance with the 120 hours requirement except four which received an exemption from ICHE; Music Education, Science Education, Fine Arts, and Medical lab Science.
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# Curriculum Review Update




This review process was conducted by the Curriculum and Academic Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate with support from Academic Affairs. The following report summarizes where we are today after program revisions have been made:



- 36 programs met the requirements of less than 72 hours and 6 semester sequence without any revision.
  - 2 programs have concentrations that met all criteria and concentrations that did not meet all:
    - Chemistry(ACS Certified & ACS Biochemistry)\*
    - Physics (Professional Physics)\*
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\*CAAC approved exemption to these concentrations based the fact that these options were only chosen by students with interest in advanced study and students have other options to enable 4 year graduation, if necessary.





# Curriculum Review Update



- 2 programs met credit hour requirement, but could not comply with 6 semester plan. They have a 7 semester plan:
  - Computer Engineering Technology
  - Information Technology
- 1 program met credit hour requirement, but requires 8 semester plan:
  - Interior design

# Curriculum Review Update

12 programs met 6 semester requirement, but require more than 71 hours:

- Elementary Education
- Art Education (all grades)
- Mathematics Education
- Social Science Education
- Physical Education (all grades)
- Accounting\*
- Business Administration\*
- Financial Services\*
- Finance\*
- Insurance and Risk Management\*
- Marketing\*
- Management Information System\*

(\*requires 71-72 hours for major based on time/path of program entry)

# Curriculum Review Update



9 programs were not able to meet either requirement.

6 of these were given an exemption based on accreditation and/or program comparison with other universities:

- Nursing
- Music – 3 program concentrations
- Business Education
- Dietetics

3 programs not able to comply with either requirement (after some modifications made)

- Athletic Training – Clinical Track (May be phased out)
- Computer Engineering Technology
- Electronics Engineering Technology

# Summary of Curriculum Review

- Much Progress Made
- Colleges made a good faith effort to comply with requirements
- CAAC and Senate did excellent job of reviewing programs
- Some additional work is warranted and consultants are being identified to work with those areas that have special challenges related to accreditation (Business, Technology, and Music)

# Department Success Initiatives

- Course Transformation Academy
- Department Student Success Plans
- University Advising Taskforce



# Course Transformation Academy



- Academy concept was developed this Fall in response to the President charge that departments increase efforts toward student success.
- Academy supports priorities identified in Department Student Success Plans.
- Academic Deans and Academic Affairs leadership agreed that Course Transformation was one of the highest priorities for their colleges
- Each college agree to participate in the transformation of course(s) within their college.

# Course Transformation Academy




## Goals of the Academy

- Redesign gateway, foundational studies, and other critical courses in order to improve learning, improve retention, and not increase cost.
- Transform existing courses into student learning environments that:
  - Develop critical thinking skills necessary for deep learning
  - Develop stronger relationships with faculty and peers

# Course Transformation Academy



- Dr. Jennifer Schriver has been chosen to lead this initiative. She will serve as a Faculty Fellow in our Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence (FCTE) while leading this project.
  - FCTE will provide the administrative home and support for the initiative.
  - The National Center for Academic Transformation (NCAT) will serve as a primary consultant for our work. NCAT has been providing support since 1999 to 200+ Universities. They have produced transformed courses that:
    - Reduced DWF rates by 10-20%
    - Higher course completion rates
    - Reduced cost from 20-37%
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# Course Transformation Academy



Initial courses identified for transformation:

## College of Arts & Sciences

- Math 102 – Quantitative Literacy
- Math 115 – College Algebra
- ENVI 110 – Into to Environmental Sciences
- BIO 112 – Human Aspects of Biology

## Scott College of Business

- Acct 200 – Survey of Accounting
- BUS 205 – Business Statistics

# Course Transformation Academy



## Bayh College of Education

- EPSY 202 – Psychology of Childhood and Adolescence
- EPSY 302 – Into to Applied Psychological Statistics

## College of Nursing, Health, & Human Service

- PE 101 – Fitness for Life

## College of Technology

- ECT 165 – D.C. Circuits and Design

# Course Transformation Academy



## Timeline

- Project will be formally introduced to campus with a campus event in February 2015 – Director of NCAT will be keynote speaker
  - Departmental Work Teams have been identified and planning is being initiated
  - Course redesign will take place over next 7-12 months with considerable work planned Summer 2015
  - Pilot courses will be implemented Fall 2015 or Winter 2016
  - Final changes will be made with planned rollout during AY 2016-17
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# Department Success Plans

- Each Academic Department developed Student Enrollment and Success Plans during AY 2014 – 2015
- These plans are being implemented during this academic year.
- Strategic Planning Funds have been allocated to support priority efforts for each college.

# Department Success Plans



Examples of priority projects:

- Scott College of Business
  - Support for Meis Development Center which focuses on developing professional and soft skills for SCOB students.
- Bayh College of Education
  - Support for a 12 month program of mini conferences, workshops, student engagement, and faculty/student development focused on making the College more welcoming, engaging, and inclusive for all students, staff, and faculty.

# Department Success Plans

- College of Nursing, Health, & Human Service
  - Work in partnership with Residence Life to more effectively integrate faculty and students into the Living Learning Communities in Hines and Sandison Halls. **Passport Blue: The Pathway to Academic Success and Personal Wellness** will be provided to approximately 200 CNHHS students during this academic year.
- College of Technology
  - The College has created a team of Student Success Supporters from the faculty who will provide enhanced advising support for transfer students and students enrolled at the junior and senior levels. Specific attention will be given to ensuring students are taking the best path to graduation.

# Department Success Plans

- College of Arts & Sciences

- Working in partnership with Admissions, new recruiting plans targeted on students interested in the visual arts, human & environmental sciences, English, & music are being developed
- Build a dedicated photographic unit to support the needs of students to create professional portfolios to document their work.
- Additional support for Science Help Center to provide tutorial support for lower division students in chemistry, physics, & biology
- Increase peer assistance for students enrolled in Math 122,131, 132, and CS 151 and 201
- Create a help center to support students enrolled in lower division social science courses.

# Department Success Plans



- University Wide

- In January, Academic Affairs will sponsor a special event to enable academic departments to share and discuss their efforts around student success.
- Participants will learn about plans that others have launched.
- Students leaders will be invited to provide their perspective on the value/impact of these initiatives
- Goal is to continue to drive our campus conversation and activities around what departments can do to improve student success.



# SUMMARY

- University has made significant progress in our efforts to work together to improve Student Success
- Great work from Department Success Task Force and Faculty Senate had led to significant policy changes that addressed some of the perceived barriers to success
- Curriculum review process has enabled departments to conduct a critical analysis of work.
- Important piece of place, advising, is not complete. Advising Task Force is being appointed and charged to recommend improvements to advising process for undergraduate and graduate students.