REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

Brief History of Issue—why the issue is being considered:
Under the current General Education system, each student pursuing a baccalaureate degree must earn one credit of physical activity. Insufficient courses exist to enable students to meet this university requirement and graduate in a timely manner. Physical activity was not included as a University requirement in the Liberal Education framework that will be implemented effective Fall 2016. As of April 2015, 4645 students had not met the University Physical Activity requirement. On October 27, 2015, the Chancellor approved a University Senate proposal to count Blugold Marching Band and selected DANCE courses to satisfy the Physical Activity requirement. That proposal, which was retroactive for 7 years, satisfied the Physical Activity requirement for an estimated 360 students. The University is looking for valid ways to enable students to meet the Physical Activity requirement without delaying graduation.

Points Discussed by Committee:
1. Participation in club sports can be tracked. Jon Bollinger, Intramurals Sports and Sport Clubs, communicates with the advisors of the sport clubs to keep track of student members. Jon has kept track of all sport club rosters in the past. Jon will submit all sport club rosters to Jillian Anderson (ADA for Kinesiology) at the end of fall and spring. The Registrar's Office will create one student group for all club sports. Jillian will then manually enter the names into the club sport student group, which is linked to the Degree Audit. The Degree Audit will show that the physical activity requirement has been met. This process is similar to how coaches of varsity sports report participation of students to fulfill the physical activity requirement.
2. The College of Education and Human Sciences is not recommending a retroactive application of this proposal (as it did with Blugold Marching Band and selected Dance classes), since rigorous mechanisms were not formerly in place to track student participation. Those mechanisms are now in place for moving forward.
3. A partially completed 2014-2015 club sport roster confirmed participation by approximately 375 students. However, per Jon Bollinger, approximately 600-700 students are involved in club sports. An additional 120-240 students are expected to participate each year (based on 5-10 students per year per club sport).
4. Club sports are competitive sports. Students practice 2-3 times per week. Per Jon Bollinger, only those students who show up for practice are allowed to compete.

Pros of Recommendation:
1. Allowing club sports to satisfy the University Physical Activity requirement would initially help approximately 600-700 students this year and then an average of 180 students each year after that.
2. Mechanisms are already in place for tracking active participation.

Cons of Recommendation: None

Technology/Human Resource Impact:
Minimal. The Registrar’s Office will have to create a “student group” for all club sports. This programming task can be completed in one day.

Committee Recommendation:
Allow student participation in a university-sponsored club sport to satisfy the University Physical Activity graduation requirement.
MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The Academic Policies Committee,

by a vote of _9_ in favor and _0_ against on November 10, 2015,

recommends that student participation in a university-sponsored club sport be allowed to satisfy the University Physical Activity graduation requirement.

- Recommended changes to be made to page 47 of the Undergraduate Catalog.

Implementation Date: Fall 2015

Signed: ______Jean A. Pratt_____
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office