



University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

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Date: May 25, 2020

To: Provost and Vice Chancellor, Patricia Kleine

From: MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Subject: APC report regarding program review of the Department of Kinesiology

The Academic Policies Committee (APC) appreciates the time and effort of Chair, Jeff Janot of the Department of Kinesiology, the members of the Internal Review Committee (Matt Evans, Carol Koroghlanian, & Tom Sather) and the external reviewer (Dr. Lance Dalleck) for the review of the Department of Kinesiology. The internal review committee and external reviewer reports provided the committee useful information to assist us in forming our recommendations. While the APC recommendations are generally summarized on the attached spreadsheet APC is providing additional details in the form of this letter.

COMMENDATIONS:

The Department of Kinesiology is to be commended for the following:

1. The department's continued contributions to the community via transformative outreach programs that address the health needs of community members.
2. The department's continued commitment to providing high quality faculty/undergraduate student collaborative research.
3. The department's continued commitments to High Impact Practices (HIPs) inside and outside of the classroom.
4. The department's recognition as a premier regional feeder system for many graduate programs in high-need allied health careers (e.g., physician assistant, physical therapy, occupational therapy, cardiac rehabilitation, health promotion/health management, and athletic training jobs) both within the upper Midwest region and nationally.
5. The department's high number of degrees conferred per year.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. FTE allocation for department's sustainability and targeted Growth. The department's self-study, along with both the internal review committee and external reviewer reports indicate its fiscal responsibility and productivity painting a picture of efficiency within the department. Student enrollment trend data and a consistently high number of degrees granted annually solidifies the departments role in contributing to the University's mission. Despite having the 5th highest enrollment in the University (of 33 departments), the department has the 18th highest average FTE over the past three years. According to the external reviewer, the Department of Kinesiology program at UWEC is easily the least supported from an FTE standpoint relative to its productivity/efficiency. UWEC administrators must invest more seriously in one of its most important programs from an enrollment/financial perspective. The evidence in all reports conclude there is a growing need to add to the Department of Kinesiology's total FTE to offset workload issues and imbalances now and in the future. This becomes more paramount if the

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department will be expected to contribute to preventing and/or maintaining university enrollments.

Summary Recommendation:

The Department of Kinesiology is doing a great job in providing a distinctive, rigorous, and highly regarded undergraduate program. For the program to continue in these efforts, the APC recommends these immediate actions:

- Strengthen connection to the Sonnentag Center development to address concerns related to existing physical shared space constraints
- Strengthen current collaborative research opportunities with Mayo Clinic
- Explore external funding sources to support their various research, creative, and outreach activities
- Utilization of faculty diversity as leverage to help recruit and retain students, including students of color

APC strongly supports the recommendation from all the other review levels to “continue in present form” considering the recommendations made above.

Cc.

Dr. Jeff Janot, Chair, Department of Kinesiology

Dr. Mary Hoffman, Director of Academic Planning and Assessment