**University Faculty Senate Consultation #4**

**April 24, 2023**

**RE: New School of Health & Human Sciences**

**Request for Feedback:**

We are proposing to move many of the health related individual studies majors from the Office of Distance Education into the new Department of Nursing & Public Health. Individual Studies majors are often utilized as a “pilot” opportunity to gauge potential student interest.

Moving them into an academic college and department would include submitting curriculum to the UCC in the upcoming cycle.

The programs being considered include: 3+1 Health Sciences (dual BA/BSN degree with Allen), Sonography 2+2 with Allen College, & Radiography 2+2 with Allen College. Currently roughly 60 students are currently enrolled across these programs.

Key benefits for this move would include:

* Creating more synergies, connections & efficiencies with other health related programs in the new School, and the potential to grow enrollment.
* Providing an academic department home for these programs, with closer connections to faculty for management of curriculum.
* Allowing more coordination across the various nursing options for students.
* Inclusion of these majors into the eventual advising model, creating a more seamless advising process for students interested in exploring various health related options in majors and plans of study.

**Nursing Updates:**

* The timeline is still to admit the first cohort of 24 students in Fall 2024.
* The university is undergoing the approval process with the HLC to add the nursing program. We are scheduled for a site visit this summer in June.
* The Iowa Board of Nursing accepted our proposed curriculum/courses, so on campus it can move to UCC now.
  + This curriculum has been built to meet accreditation requirements. In addition to state level requirements, the program will be seeking national accreditation from ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing).
  + The curriculum is also being built with a new and innovative philosophy of integrating didactic, lab, and simulation work within the program.
* Dr. Nancy Kertz, UNI’s CANA, has been visiting with regional service providers about clinical relationships and student financial support. These visits have been going very well.
* Dr. Jimmy Reyes, the first hired UNI Nursing faculty member, has been assisting with curriculum, P&T standards development, and accreditation preparation.
* A search is currently underway for a Nursing Clinical Coordinator P&S position.
* The first phase of building renovations in ITTC should start in May/June.
* Admissions has reported a notable increase in nursing inquiries and applications even though we won't start until fall 2024
* Foundation continues to work on identifying external support through grant applications to regional foundations and discussions with individual donors.

**School of Health & Human Sciences Updates:**

* Reminder of structure:
  + College of Social & Behavioral Sciences
    - School of Health & Human Sciences
      * Department of Family, Aging, & Counseling
      * Department of Kinesiology & Athletic Training
      * Department of Nursing & Public Health
      * Department of Social Work
* Timeline is still to launch the new school and departments July 1st this summer.
* Process updates for new school and departments:
  + Formation & names of school and departments are currently undergoing review through the BOR process.
  + Faculty in the new departments have been working on their P&T standards/criteria and PAC procedures. Nursing is working on developing relevant standards for their eventual faculty, and coordinating with the Public Health faculty.
  + An internal department head search was launched for the new Dept of Kinesiology & Athletic Training.
* Brenda Bass is facilitating (along with Biology, Chemistry & other relevant programs) an articulation with Des Moines University to create pathways to professional health related graduate degrees at DMU.
* We continue discussions with Academic Advising and Admissions leadership regarding what would be the most effective recruitment, intake & advising model for health related majors and pathways.
* The university will do a public relations push in mid-summer regarding health related majors and how the reorganization emphasizes UNI’s commitment to providing these options for students. This will occur after the official approval from the BOR.
* The New School Working Group will plan one more email update to all of Academic Affairs before the end of the semester in May.