

Wienczek, John (johnwienczek@uidaho.edu)

From: Wienczek, John (johnwienczek@uidaho.edu)
Sent: Tuesday, April 14, 2020 3:03 PM
To: Green, Scott (scottgreen@uidaho.edu)
Cc: Lawrence, Torrey - VPF (tlawrence@uidaho.edu); Salisbury, Kimberly (kims@uidaho.edu); Stout, Mary (stoutm@uidaho.edu); Grieb, Terrance (tgrieb@uidaho.edu); Ewart, Daniel (dewart@uidaho.edu); Mahoney, Trina (tmahoney@uidaho.edu); McFadden, Mary Kay (marykaymcfadden@uidaho.edu); Ritts, Bradley (ritts@uidaho.edu); Nicotra, Jodie (jnicotra@uidaho.edu); Neilson, Chad (cneilson@uidaho.edu); Lockhart, Jacob (jacobl@uidaho.edu); Tibbals, Charles (ctibbals@uidaho.edu); Stout, Mary (stoutm@uidaho.edu); Foisy, Brian (brianfoisy@uidaho.edu); Halverson, Rachel (rhalverson@uidaho.edu); Sammaruca, Francesca (fsammarr@uidaho.edu); Espinoza, Joana (jespinoza@uidaho.edu)
Subject: Recommendations regarding Academic Program Prioritization
Attachments: APP Taskforce Report 2020.docx; Appendix APP Final Report.pdf

Dear President Green,

The Institutional Planning and Effectiveness Committee (IPEC) as well as the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) Taskforce submit to you the final report (attached) written by the APP Taskforce for your consideration.

IPEC met on April 13, 2020 to consider the recommendations of the report. IPEC was strongly in favor of accepting the recommendations of the APP Taskforce while offering its own additional recommendations. The vote was as follows: 9 in favor and 1 against (explained later). The additional recommendations follow:

1. The report focuses on roughly 20 programs out of 66 total programs in the Fifth Quintile (Q5). The other 45 programs were not named in this report because the APP Taskforce wanted to limit the exposure of these other programs as part of the process since they were deemed deserving of exemption or additional time to improve. One member of IPEC was reluctant to agree with the report, especially the rationale for excluding many of the Q5 programs from Step Two and closure consideration. It was recommended to give a summative table as an addendum to the report that articulates the disposition categories for Q5 programs and the numbers in each category. This table is below which will be included via this memo as an additional appendix to the report:

Q5 Disposition Category	Number of Programs in Category
Closure	10 (8 voluntary and 2 Material Sci programs)
Merger	7 (2 Geography, 5 in progress already)
Recently Discontinued	7
Newly Formed Program	15
Built Solely on Pre-existing Courses	8
Emphasis – Remove or Merge	2
Other Rationale for More Time	17

2. The merger of Geography and Geology opens up some intriguing possibilities even beyond the College of Science. IPEC recommends that a Presidential workgroup explore broader possibilities for such a merger.

3. Given the many Music related programs in Q5 and the lack of a plan coming from the School of Music, IPEC encourages you to engage with the Dean of CLASS to formulate an action plan to address the low RBA of the School of Music holistically.

There are numerous recommendations for continued improvements to the APP process within this report and the Taskforce recommends turning this activity into a standing committee. In addition, a parallel process needs to be run for non-academic programs consistent with the SBOE expectations. Given the unanticipated efforts that were directed towards COVID-19, IPEC recommends picking up these matters during the next Fiscal Year.

At this point, it is important that you communicate to the three academic areas that met with the APP Taskforce about your disposition in each of these cases. The programs should be offered a chance to meet with you after you relay your decision to them, so that they can make a case for reconsideration if they desire. Although the Taskforce only recommends closure of one of these programs, it certainly understands that its role is advisory and that you may opt to close other programs or to not close any program.

We hope this report meets your expectations. If you require any additional work, please reach out.

Sincerely

IPEC