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From: Lester, Frank K.

Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2002 2:41 PM

To: Chafel, Judith A

Cc: Mccarty, Luise Prior

Subject: query regarding policy implications of GSC decision

Dear Judith,

I am contacting you in my position as chair of the Graduate Studies Committee to ask that you place on the agenda of Policy Council an item that has been the subject of a considerable amount of discussion at GSC meetings both this year and last. Before presenting the item, let me first provide a bit of background.

Last year, Dean Gonzalez and officials from IP-Fort Wayne agreed that a Core Campus, School of Education Ed.S. in Educational Leadership can be awarded to students enrolled at Fort Wayne. This new program does not involve a change in the course requirements for the degree, but it does reduce the number of credit hours that must be taken at the Core Campus from 35 to 24. (The stated policy is that students enrolled in Ed.S. programs must earn at least 35 credit hours at the Core Campus.) The GSC determined that it could not actually approve the reduction in the number of credit hours because to do so would violate a policy established by the Policy Council. Instead, the GSC granted the program a provisional approval. The GSC has now received a request from Barry Bull, chair of ELPS, for permanent approval of the program. His memo indicates that the ELPS faculty has approved the program. Put another way, Barry is requesting that the program be granted a permanent exception to the stated policy.

Rather than recommend for or against Barry's request, the GSC voted to recommend to Policy Council that the program be given another year of provisional approval. Because the GSC is uncomfortable with its decision to grant an exception for a second year, we have asked Barry to provide the committee with data about the program. (See below my memo to Barry in this regard.)

The issue the GSC wishes Policy Council to consider has to do with the long-term implications of continuing to grant exceptions to established policy. In particular, the primary concern of the GSC is that by reducing the number of credit hours from 35 to 24, Core Campus faculty and departments will have a much-diminished role in monitoring the quality of the programs for which they are responsible. We are also concerned that if the program is given a permanent exemption from the 35 credit hours policy, a precedence will have been established that will make it difficult to keep other programs from requiring fewer than 35 credit hours on the Core Campus.

Of course, I would be willing to meet with you or the Agenda Committee to clarify the issues involved or to attend a future meeting of the Policy Council to discuss this matter.

Frank

>Date: Thu, 5 Dec 2002 15:09:25 -0500  
>To: bbull  
>From: Frank Lester <lester@indiana.edu>  
>Subject: Ed.S. in Educational Leadership  
>Cc: lmccarty  
>Bcc:  
>X-Attachments:  
>  
>Dear Barry,  
>  
>At yesterday's meeting of the Graduate Studies Committee we  
>discussed the memorandum I sent you (dated December 3, 2002). In  
>that memo I asked if you could send me information about the status  
>of the new Ed.S. Program in Educational Leadership. I did not  
>specify what information you should send, so you might wonder about  
>this. After some discussion, we decided that the following  
>information would be useful to us:  
>  
>1. How many students are currently enrolled in the program? 2. How  
>many students have programs of study that will involve taking fewer  
>than 35 credits on the Core Campus? 3. Who are the students'  
advisors?  
>Is the advising load equitably distributed?  
>4. Who is responsible for monitoring the success of the program?  
>Who is overseeing the program's quality?  
>  
>Of course, you should feel free to include any other data that you  
>think appropriate.  
>  
>Thanks in advance for helping us in this matters.  
>  
Frank