UCC Report, 2013-2014 Academic Year

1. Overview

The UCC has 31 members, one from each academic department plus one each from Integrated Studies, Honors, Steely Library, and Women and Gender Studies. The UCC meets every first and third Thursday September through April, with the exception of December. There may also be one May meeting depending on the academic schedule. During 2013-2014, four of the meetings were moved to on-line meetings because of a limited number of voting items. The average attendance for Fall 2013 was 76% while the average attendance for Spring 2014 was 56%.

2. Curriculum Changes Approved

Four new full programs and certificate programs approved this year:

- BS in Respiratory Care
- BS in Radiological Science
- Undergraduate Certificate in Information Technology
- Undergraduate Certificate in Cybersecurity

The following numbers are approximate:

- Number of program/track deletions: 4
- Number of new tracks: 15
- Number of program changes: 73
- Number of program admission requirement changes: 3
- Number of new general education courses (having completed the pilot project): 3
- Number of new courses: 76
- Number of course changes: 262
- Number of course deletions: 26 (an additional (approximately) 80 courses were deleted through the catalog update process with the identification of courses not taught in at least 5 years)

3. Other Efforts

- Created a definition and policy for credit hours. Developed forms for faculty to use to estimate the number of hours that a student is expected to dedicate to a course.
- Discussed the additional graduation requirement of "Focus" (what used to be known as an "Area of Concentration"), minor or double major. Although the UCC largely was in favor of modifying the "Focus", we postponed any recommendation awaiting feedback from the Academic Innovation Implementation Team.
- Examined benchmark institutions' curricular processes and structures to determine if we should alter our own processes/structures. The recommendation was to leave the NKU process and structure as is.
- Dedicated the x95 number for Study Abroad Topics courses and created 10 new courses.
- Implemented a form to allow departments to modify whether a course should be listed as "repeatable" in SAP and corrected dozens of courses in SAP which were erroneously listed.

4. Expected Initiatives for 2014-2015

- Continue to discuss graduation requirements.
- Work with the General Education Committee to modify the curriculum process for pilot general education courses.
- Develop, as a workgroup with IT and the Provost's Office, a new curriculum submission process beyond the current UCC website/forms.
- Create a new curriculum manual.

Submitted by Richard Fox, UCC Chair