

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: 6 – F

DATE: May 8-10, 2018

SUBJECT

Program Productivity Review

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[AAC Guideline 4.1](#) – Program Productivity Review Guidelines

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Data from the program productivity review process were evaluated during the [November 2017](#) AAC meeting, and a formal item outlining underperforming programs as defined by the Program Productivity Guidelines were reviewed by the Board of Regents at their [December 2017](#) meeting.

The Board of Regents approved a set of common thresholds based on the major degree level including: 1) five associate's degrees/year or 25 during the five-year period reported; 2) five bachelor's degrees/year or 25 during the five-year period reported; 3) three master's degrees/year or 15 during the five-year period reported; and 4) one first professional and doctor's degrees/year or 5 during the five-year period reported. Excluded are those programs that have been approved within the past seven years (graduation production of these programs are provided to institutions in subsequent data reports to provide for ongoing tracking of production levels). Institutions were informed that those programs depicted in Attachment I must be assign one of the five designation types noted below to the programs identified in this year's review:

1. Retain due to critical need;
2. Retain with further review required;
3. Consolidate with another program on campus;
4. Consolidate with another program(s) within the system;
5. Terminate.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Attachment I provides the list of those programs for FY17 that have fallen below the program productivity review thresholds that were set by the Board. The institutional

(Continued)

DRAFT MOTION 20180508_6-F:

I move to approve the recommended actions from the campuses regarding the programs flagged in the program productivity review as presented in Attachment I.

responses to the complete list of identified programs were reviewed at the [January 2018](#) AAC meeting. Following discussion, the final set of recommendations and designations were developed and reviewed at the [April 2018](#) AAC meeting which can be found in Attachment I. In total, eighteen programs are slated for termination or have recently been terminated as a result of the program productivity review process that occurs every two years.

When the Board reviewed the current list of targeted programs at the December 2017 Board of Regents meeting, questions arose as to whether the current benchmarks were appropriate for managing this process going forward. The board inquired whether a threshold set at 7 graduates per year would be more appropriate compared to the current benchmark of 5 graduates for undergraduate programs. A similar process for identifying underperforming programs was re-run for the same five-year window. As an alternative, seven undergraduates per year was used rather than the current average of five, and then an average of four master's degree graduates per year was used rather than the three outlined in the current guidelines. The data identified an additional 28 degree programs that would be flagged and require rationales be provided by campus personnel to justify retaining at the institutional level (see Attachment II).

Board staff recommends that the Board approve the final set of recommendations provided in Attachment I.

Additionally, board members should provide guidance as to whether the new benchmarks of 7 or 5 should be used going forward. If the change is approved, updates will be made to the set of Academic Affairs Guidelines which are used to manage the program productivity review process.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – Campus Recommendations for Programs Falling Below the Program Productivity Review Thresholds for FY17

Attachment II – Flagged Degree Programs Under Alternative Program Productivity Thresholds

Table 1
Programs Falling Below the Program Productivity Review Thresholds for FY17

Degree Type	Major	FY13-FY17	Recommended Action
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY			
<i>Assoc</i>	Tourism	12	<i>Retain/further review:</i> This program stacks into the BS program, incurs no additional cost. Currently this is the only active program of this type in state.
<i>Bach</i>	American Indian Studies	22	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Critical to BHSU mission, and the state of South Dakota.
<i>Bach</i>	Business Education	3	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Bach</i>	Chemistry Education	2	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Bach</i>	Communication Studies/Theatre	1	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Program meets critical need for students dedicated to performance, but who do not wish to go into education. Courses overlap with speech and theater education programs which produced 25 graduates during this time frame.
<i>Bach</i>	Composite Communication/Engl	9	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Bach</i>	Composite Math/Science	11	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Developed in response to shortage of rural math/science teachers. Currently 12 students enrolled.
<i>Bach</i>	Composite Music	6	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Courses overlap with music education, no additional cost to program; Provides a program for musicians who are interested in non-educational music careers. Recruitment process is ongoing.
<i>Bach</i>	Composite Social Science	18	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Designed to meet the needs of secondary education students at rural South Dakota schools where multiple social science disciplines may be required for teachers.
<i>Bach</i>	Composite Speech/Comm.	0	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Bach</i>	Physical Science	0	<i>Retain/further review:</i> 12 currently enrolled, interest growing due to SURF.
<i>Bach</i>	Social Science	15	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Bach</i>	Spanish	9	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Only BH foreign language major for non-teachers; courses overlap with Spanish Education, no additional cost. BOR staff recommends discussion with other Regental institutions to explore options for collaborative program.

Table 1 Continued
Programs Falling Below the Program Productivity Review Thresholds for FY17

Degree Type	Major	FY13- FY17	Recommended Action
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY			
<i>Bach</i>	Biology	5	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Program addresses shortage of biology teachers in SD.
<i>Bach</i>	English	10	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Program addresses shortage of English teachers in SD.
<i>Bach</i>	English Information Systems	2	<i>Terminate.</i> Recommended for termination in 2016; The name of the program changed to English for New Media
<i>Bach</i>	English for New Media	22	<i>Retain/further review:</i> Combined with the formerly named program, there are 24 graduates. Therefore, DSU asks to keep this program as they continue the transition.
<i>Bach</i>	Management Information Systems	8	<i>Terminate:</i> Program name changed in 2012 to “Business Technology.” Institution plans to request formal termination when current enrollees graduate.
<i>Bach</i>	Mathematics	14	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Program addresses shortage of math teachers in SD.
<i>Bach</i>	Physical Science	3	<i>Terminate.</i> Program name changed to XXXX in 2015. Former program to terminate after enrollees graduate.
<i>Bach</i>	Professional Accountancy	14	<i>Retain/further review:</i> Program is undergoing some curricular changes and additional emphasis is being placed on recruitment.
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY			
<i>Assoc</i>	Banking & Financial Services	6	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Assoc</i>	Biotechnology	16	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> This program fills a critical need, and most courses in the program are taken by students in other majors or by students in the 4-year program.
<i>Assoc</i>	Business	20	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Assoc</i>	Digital Design	2	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> This program fills a critical need, and the courses do not add additional cost as they closely align with the B.A. in Graphic Design.
<i>Bach</i>	Chemistry	21	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Program addresses critical need, and new Science facility is expected to increase the number of enrollments and graduates in the future.
<i>Bach</i>	Economics	9	<i>Terminate.</i>

Table 1 Continued
Programs Falling Below the Program Productivity Review Thresholds for FY17

Degree Type	Major	FY13-FY17	Recommended Action
<i>Bach</i>	French Studies	2	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Bach</i>	German	3	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> This Collaborative Program with SDSU and USD fills a critical need, and the combined graduates meet threshold.
<i>Bach</i>	Management Information Systems	16	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> This program fills a critical need. MIS is a major that is increasing in demand each year, and the degree serves as a stacking option for students.
<i>Bach</i>	Mathematics	18	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> This program fills a critical need, as Math Education students also will take every course in this major, but are not counted in the total.
<i>Bach</i>	Medical Laboratory Science	16	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Program addresses rural health care shortages, and has a 100% job placement, with 50% of those being placed in South Dakota after graduation. MLS graduates are in high demand in South Dakota and the region.
<i>Bach</i>	Musical Theatre	9	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> The program is also critical to the artistic fabric of the university, community, and region. Additionally, required courses overlap with other productive programs at the institutions resulting in no cost savings from termination.
<i>Mast/Spec</i>	Instructional Design in E-Learning	2	<i>Regain/further review:</i> This program is currently undergoing a feasibility study, and a recommendation will move forward by Summer 2018. The institution will evaluate future plans after study has been completed.
<i>Mast/Spec</i>	Train & Develop in E-Learning	2	<i>Terminate.</i>
SD SCHOOL OF MINES & TECHNOLOGY			
<i>Mast/Spec</i>	Physics	11	<i>Retain/critical need:</i> Mines expects few students to graduate with an MS in Physics. Producing Ph.D. graduates is emphasized and the department does not provide financial support for M.S. students. Those interested in the MS are self-supporting and occasionally continue on to the Ph.D. Retaining the M.S. program has no cost, and it offers this alternative degree pathway for some students.

Table 1 Continued
Programs Falling Below the Program Productivity Review Thresholds for FY17

Degree Type	Major	FY13-FY17	Recommended Action
<i>Mast/Spec</i>	Biomedical Engineering	1	<i>Regain/further review:</i> The program began in 2006, and in 2012 new administrative oversight of the program was established. From 2012 to 2016, headcount went from 3 to 10 students. Furthermore, work is underway to create a joint undergraduate program in biomedical engineering (joint between SDSMT and USD). With good management, students enrolled in 2014 are beginning to graduate. One graduated in December 2017. We anticipate 4 Ph.D. graduates in 2018, three in 2019, and two in 2020 for our current students. At the current level of funding, the program can maintain approximately 4 MS and 8-10 Ph.D. students. As faculty get grant support the program will grow. A reasonable projection is graduation of 2-3 Ph.D. students a year from 2018 forward. Post-baccalaureate study in this field is common, so the undergraduate program is predicted to further support enrollment at the graduate level.
<i>SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY</i>			
<i>Bach</i>	Agriculture/Resource Economics	18	<i>Retain/Critical Need:</i> As land-grant institution, this major focuses on sustainability of the agricultural industry and the stewardship of natural resources. Strategic Enrollment Management Plan will be developed.
<i>Bach</i>	Art Education	15	<i>Terminated:</i> Program is being phased out. Was replaced with the Art Education Specialization within the B.F.A. in Studio Art
<i>Bach</i>	Chemistry	7	<i>Terminated:</i> Program code was terminated in 2012 due to a consolidation of chemistry programs. 26 students were enrolled in the ACS Certified Chemistry program in FA17.
<i>Bach</i>	French Studies	13	<i>Retain/Critical Need:</i> Essential for comprehensive university to offer languages other than Spanish. Collaborative program with NSU & USD. Strategic Enrollment Management Plan will be developed.
<i>Bach</i>	German	13	<i>Retain/further review:</i> Collaborative program with NSU & USD, combined graduates meet threshold.
<i>Bach</i>	Physics	19	<i>Consolidate:</i> New program code was created in FA11 with 25 students enrolled FA17.
<i>Mast/Spec</i>	Agronomy	4	<i>Terminated:</i> Replaced by Ph.D. in Plant Science, with 16 students enrolled in FA17.

Table 1 Continued
Programs Falling Below the Program Productivity Review Thresholds for FY17

Degree Type	Major	FY13- FY17	Recommended Action
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA			
<i>Bach</i>	Earth Sciences	18	<i>Terminate.</i>
<i>Bach</i>	French & Francophone Studies	4	<i>Retain/further review:</i> Redesigned with emphasis on culture & history. USD to evaluate as part of program review process in 2018-19.
<i>Bach</i>	German	10	<i>Retain/further review:</i> This Collaborative Program with NSU.
<i>Bach</i>	Native American Studies	10	<i>Retain/further review:</i> Redesigned in 2015, new program leadership with enrollments expected to increase. Program will be reviewed in 2018.
<i>Bach</i>	Philosophy	20	<i>Retain/further review:</i> Program will be reviewed in 2018.
<i>Bach</i>	Physics	16	<i>Retain/further review:</i> Program will be reviewed in 2018.
<i>Mast/Spec</i>	Curriculum and Instruction	2	<i>Terminated:</i> Program terminated in 2016.

**Additional Programs Flagged for the Program Productivity Review Process with 7
Undergraduate and 4 Master's Degree Graduates Required Per Year**

Inst	Level	MName	Grads FY13	Grads FY14	Grads FY15	Grads FY16	Grads FY17	Grads All
BHSU	2.Bach	Composite Science Education -- SC	3	2	2	6	5	18
BHSU	2.Bach	Speech/Speech Communications -- SPCM	8	8	5	3	1	25
BHSU	3.Mast/Spec	Integrative Genomics -- IG	5	0	5	2	3	15
DSU	1.Assoc	General Studies -- GENS	3	10	4	5	4	26
DSU	2.Bach	Accounting -- ACCT	3	5	4	2	5	19
DSU	2.Bach	Business Technology -- BTEC	0	1	1	2	5	9
DSU	2.Bach	Math Information Systems -- MTIS	7	6	0	4	6	23
NSU	2.Bach	Environmental Science -- ENSC	5	9	7	9	4	34
NSU	2.Bach	Finance -- FIN	11	9	4	5	4	33
NSU	2.Bach	International Business -- INBU	3	4	13	4	2	26
NSU	2.Bach	Music -- MUS	3	5	1	9	5	23
SDSMT	1.Assoc	General -- GENS	4	7	1	6	6	24
SDSMT	2.Bach	Applied & Computational Math -- ACMA	7	5	5	6	3	26
SDSMT	3.Mast/Spec	Paleontology -- PALE	2	4	3	6	1	16
SDSU	2.Bach	ACS Certified Chemistry -- CHAC	6	0	3	4	6	19
SDSU	2.Bach	Family & Consumer Sci Ed -- FCSE	5	4	6	3	6	24
SDSU	2.Bach	Horticulture -- HO	5	7	7	9	5	33
SDSU	2.Bach	Music -- MUS	6	4	4	6	5	25
SDSU	2.Bach	Rangeland Ecology & Management -- REMG	3	4	7	6	6	26
SDSU	2.Bach	Studio Art -- SART	9	6	5	10	4	34
SDSU	2.Bach	Theatre -- THEA	4	1	5	3	6	19
USD	1.Assoc	Dental Hygiene -- DHYG	30	0	0	0	0	30
USD	2.Bach	Human Resource Management -- HRMG	10	4	5	6	5	30
USD	2.Bach	Mathematics Education -- MTED	4	2	2	1	5	14
USD	2.Bach	Medical Laboratory Science -- MLS	5	9	6	5	6	31
USD	2.Bach	Musical Arts -- MUSA	5	0	2	1	5	13
USD	2.Bach	Physical Education -- PE	11	5	4	7	3	30
USD	3.Mast/Spec	Theatre -- THEA	6	3	1	3	2	15