

August 24, 2015 Notes for the Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs

Meeting I

JK extra critical issues: 1. a space issue - some IPs have space, others don't. E.g., nuclear doesn't have a way to request capital improvement on space. 2. accountability (could be part of item 2 of issues "Inconsistent recognition, support and accountability). E.g, when you hire someone that then doesn't want to participate.

Alexandra: along lines of JK comment, how do faculty participating in programs get recognition.

DK: is the objective to look at individual programs or all the programs holistically together.

MP: what about the need for new grow directions within particular programs (seed funds)

JK: supportive of recommendation #3 (admin support)

Alexandra: admin support would be very useful.

JD: talk to President Johnson about these -e.g., the support needed for these programs.

AN: fellowships needed - maybe should be provided in relation to dollars being brought in. That would be a top priority. The other top priority is the admin support (one administrative person).

JK: what are the rewards for departments to encourage students to do interdisciplinary programs. This doesn't work well for NE/MME now.

On Recommendations III (input into P&T process) - should there be input from the program director to the P&T process. Some people said optional, some people said required if the faculty was hired to work in the program.

On hiring complications: DK for current structure of Interdisciplinary programs, we can't hire interdisciplinary faculty, have to first hire someone in a certain department. Would need to restructure the interdisciplinary program structure.

Ranville: to emphasize what DK said, need to make sure can individual program flexibility.

JK: for cross listing courses, courses within a department, but are part of the interdisciplinary program, need to have comments/evals sent to program directors (right now only DHs see those).

Meeting II

KO: on hiring process: Senate submitted a proposal last spring related to hiring and especially cross-disciplinary hires - that would go into the Handbook. We should look for that.

PN: intellectual property of courses or other items; e.g., industry connections. Do those belong to department or program?

PN: not all faculty know about all the interdisciplinary programs and it would be good to have dissemination about these - could have joint seminars for example. Programs should be also "sold" to industry. Could do short course programs. Build notoriety.

PN: UC Davis has half of their students in interdisciplinary programs and we should take a look at their web site.

SP: visibility is important - students don't know about the different programs.

VG: agreement on need to cross list courses.

There was general consensus amongst group that this (above comment) was very important.

PN: idea of an REU type program for each interdisciplinary program.

PN: idea of having minors within programs and industry internships.

PN: For evaluation of faculty's participation in an interdisciplinary program, put in a box in faculty FDRs that says "what have you done for interdisciplinary programs?".

Lots of discussion about P&T and joint appointments. Suggestions were made to think about requiring faculty to get letters/input from interdisciplinary program if the faculty says they work in that interdisciplinary program. There should be good communication between DH's and PD's (and deans/associate provost).

Craig Taylor: the problem is broader than interdisciplinary programs - it has to do with joint appointments (inside CSM and external).

KO: we should send a short note to the Senate on our proposal of how P&T process should be altered. The problem should maybe include the broader picture of joint appointments.

All: we need to cross-list courses.