April 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Academic Transformation Update: Program Review Preliminary Recommendation

Dear President Stuart and Dean Smith,

As part of the ongoing Academic Transformation initiative, the Provost's Office has completed its Board of Governors Rule 2.2 Program Review process for the BS in Computer Engineering at WVU Institute of Technology.

Possible Recommendations

Under WVU Board of Governors Rule 2.2., there are four possible recommendations for programs, and they are defined as follows:
1. Continue at the current level of activity (i.e., no recommended changes for the program)
2. Continue at the current level of activity with specific action (i.e., the program will continue to exist, but there are recommended changes for the program)
3. Development of a cooperative program (i.e., potentially merging one or more programs together to create a new program / curriculum with the potential reduction of faculty positions)
4. Discontinue the program (i.e., program will no longer exist after a teach out is completed and there may be a potential reduction of faculty positions)

Preliminary Recommendations

After considering the data previously released, the information contained within your unit's Self-Study Review Form, and consulting with the campus' institutional leaders, the Provost's Office Preliminary Recommendation is as follows:

- BS Computer Engineering: Continuance at the current level of activity with specific action

The program must take the following steps as a result of this recommendation:

- By December 15, 2024, submit in CIM a revision to program curriculum that eliminates the Computer Engineering elective requirement and reduces the required credit hours to complete the program to 123.
- By December 15, 2024, submit a plan for the rotation of required course offerings to increase instructional efficiency and improve section fill rates.
- By December 15, 2024, submit a report to determine if more curricular sharing is possible between this program and Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, and/or Information Systems.

The key components that led to the Provost's Office Preliminary Recommendations include the following:

- Program enrollment has historically been declining but the ratio of faculty-to-program majors is above institutional and peer benchmarks. The program shares curriculum and course offerings with several other programs making it more efficient than if the curriculum were entirely distinct.
- The plan presented by the unit in its self-study demonstrated why the program is in good standing with ABET. The program should continue to develop its assessment of learning and student success practices to inform curricular change.
- The self-study also detailed the program's efforts to improve its physical infrastructure as well as to hire and retain qualified faculty.

Program Review Appeal Process

If a chair opts to appeal any part of the Provost's Office Preliminary Recommendation, they must submit a [Notice of Intent to Appeal](#) by **Friday, April 19, 2024.**

Any chair who files a Notice of Intent to Appeal will receive notification at least three business days in advance of when the Program Review Appeal Committee hearing for their program will be scheduled. Most hearings will occur on either **April 25 or 26, 2024**.

To ensure a broad-based representation, the Provost's Office will establish a Program Review Appeal Committee specific for each unit. As specified in Board of Governor's Rule 2.2, members will include the vice provost, the associate provost for undergraduate education, the program review officer, an administrative representative from program's home college, two representatives from dean's offices outside of the program's home college, and the Faculty Assembly chair or designee from the program's home college.

The chair, school/division director, or faculty member who filed the Notice of Intent to Appeal must submit the [Program Review Appeal Form](#), which contains any additional information or data they wish the Program Review Appeal Committee to consider, at least two business days in advance of the hearing.

During the appeal hearing, the unit's representative is given 30 minutes to present the substance of their appeal and 15 minutes to address questions from the Program Review Appeal Committee.

The Program Review Appeal Committee will then deliberate and vote to accept or change the Provost's Office Preliminary Recommendation. The program review officer tallies the votes, informs the Program Review Appeal Committee of the results, and communicates the results to the campus leadership and chair within three business days following the hearing.

If the appeal is denied, the original recommendation will be presented to the Board of Governors for a vote on June 21. If the appeal is granted, the Program Review Appeal Committee may provide a new recommendation to the campus leadership. This new recommendation would also go to the Board of Governors for a vote. All decisions made by the Program Review Appeal Committee are final.

Sincerely,

WVU Office of the Provost