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E A S T B A Y

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Date: March 16, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael K. Mahoney".

From: Michael Mahoney, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs

To: Jodi Servatius, Interim Dean, CEAS
Rita Liberti, Chair, Kinesiology and Physical Education

Subject: MOU Meeting – B.S. in Kinesiology, M.S. in Kinesiology

On March 10, 2009, I met with Barbara Storms, Associate Dean, CEAS; Rita Liberti, Chair, Kinesiology and Physical Education; Aline Soules, Chair, CAPR; and Carl Bellone, AVP Academic Programs and Graduate Studies to discuss the Program Review for the B.S. in Kinesiology and the M.S. in Kinesiology and to develop an MOU as required by CAPR 9.

Since the submission of the CAPR Report, Intercollegiate Athletics has moved out of the Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education. This was a major change. Happily, the change is having a positive effect on the Department. Without Athletics the Department has found more time to concentrate on issue such as growth of the major and course scheduling for the major. The Department has experience strong growth at the undergraduate level and is now the 6th largest undergraduate major on campus.

The Department is proposing that its name be changed from Kinesiology and Physical Education to simply Kinesiology which is more common in the CSU.

The Department has benefited from new faculty hires several of whom have replaced retired faculty. Faculty in the Department are working on four major issues: 1) growing and serving the 400 undergraduate majors, 2) managing the activities courses, 3) offering GE courses including upper division B6, and 4) revitalizing the graduate program which has experience a drop in enrollment.

Newly hired faculty members are in tune with the need for assessment. As a result, the Department now has a culture that supports assessment and has made significant gains in assessing student learning outcomes. The Department has four student learning outcomes for the undergraduate program and is working on assessing one of these outcomes at present.

The Department's Operating, Expense and Equipment budget has been stable but not sufficient. Fortunately, the Sports Performance Series offered by the Division of Continuing and International Education (DCIE) has provided the Department with revenue that has been used to buy equipment. The Kinesiology Lab has benefitted greatly from the partnership with DCIE.

The Fitness Lab in the Gym was remodeled in 2007. The remodel was greatly needed and the Fitness Lab is now a good facility. The Department is unsure of what impact the Recreation and Wellness Center will have on the Fitness Lab once it is completed. It may be harder to generate FTE from courses in the Fitness Lab.

The Department would like to have Room 201 in the Gym remodeled. Currently this is an open space. A wall is needed to separate this space from the activities on the floor of the basketball courts which would make the space usable for activities such as Tai Chi classes. Other remodeling needs include the locker rooms and the Field House especially given the move to Division II.

The Department has experienced some tension with Facilities Reservations which occasionally engages in actions without prior notification or discussion that impact the Department's staff. It is recommended that Facilities Reservations work more closely with the Department about scheduling and staffing events. The Department has an MOU with Intercollegiate Athletics which was agreed to by all concerned following lengthy negotiations. It will need to be re-negotiated next year.

The CAPR Report from May 2008 made the following observations in its analysis of the B.S. and M.S. in Kinesiology: 1) the Department needs to create student learning outcomes (SLOs) at the undergraduate and graduate levels, 2) the Department needs to measure and analyze its SLOs and use this data to for program and course modifications, 3) the Department needs to address the decline in graduate enrollment and develop a plan to revise its master's degree, 4) the Department needs to carefully consider the implications of the possible moving out of Athletics (note that this is no longer an issue), 5) the Department and the university need to work together to see that the any negative impacts on FTE from the new Recreation and Wellness Center are mitigated, and 6) it is critical that the Department's facilities are upgraded and that space is created for classes and faculty offices.

The results of the MOU meeting are as follows:

1. It is encouraging to learn that the new faculty members have helped the Department create a culture supportive of assessment and that progress is now being made on assessment of student learning outcomes. The Department is encouraged to work with the assessment coordinator or the CEAS Dean's Office to develop an assessment plan that will include both the undergraduate and graduate programs. The assessment plan should include a description of the assessment methodology and how the results of assessment will be used to inform curricular decisions. Progress on assessment should be noted in the Annual Reports submitted to CAPR.
2. The Department is encouraged to continue its development of a plan to address the decline in enrollment in its graduate program including a revision of the curriculum.

3. The Recreation and Wellness Center will be a major improvement for the university. However, it is possible that it may negatively impact the amount of FTE currently generated in activities courses for the Department. The Department, the College and the university should monitor this and develop strategies to mitigate significant negative impacts should they occur.
4. The Department is encouraged to continue its partnership with DCIE as a means of generating non-state funds to help with space and facilities upgrades. The Department, through the Dean's Office, should work with Administration and Finance to identify as source of funding for a remodel of Room 201 in the Gym.

AVP Carl Bellone and I are impressed with the Department's management of the effects of the complicated transition of Intercollegiate Athletics out of the department. We are also impressed with the Department's transition over time into a more academically oriented department. This transition has been enhanced further by the removal of Athletics. It's apparent that the Department is a strong department that works well together for the benefit of our students. The Department is to be congratulated for its efforts to promote a variety of classes and programs for students.

We would like to thank the CAPR members for their time and informative report.

cc: Aline Soules
Carl Bellone
Sue Opp
Barbara Storms