Office of the President

Academic Program Review

Purpose

In 2009, the University community came together to adopt a new Strategic Plan, entitled mawohtamawatowin: Our Work, Our People Our Communities. One of the key statements in that document is that in order to succeed, "the University must be selective in the programs it offers" that to achieve excellence, choices need to be made.

The Academic Programming Evaluation is a process of collecting the evidence needed for making those choices, so the criteria used in the evaluation should have wide acceptance within the University community. Eventually, this process will have financial implications - it is ultimately designed to help the University focus limited resources in a way that increases our program quality, our reputation, and our long-term institutional sustainability.

Responsibilities

Luigi Benedicenti, Associate Vice-President (Academic), has operational responsibility for the evaluation.

Higher Education Strategy Associates (HESA) is conducting the evaluation. Alex Usher, HESA's President, and Dr. Lori McElroy, HESA's Senior Scientist, are responsible for designing the evaluation method, including the criteria to use and the types of evidence to collect, assessing the evidence and writing the evaluation report. They will also be involved in collecting the information, together with the University of Regina's Office of Resource Planning.

All key decisions about the evaluation, such as the evaluation criteria to consider and the types of evidence to collection, are being made in consultation with the Evaluation Steering Committee of the Dean's Council.

Project Overview

The evaluation is based on the proven approach developed by Robert Dickeson in Prioritizing Academic Programs and Services. HESA, in consultation with the Evaluation Steering Committee, have customized Dickeson's approach to meet the needs of the University of Regina.

HESA has collected all the information and the scores of each program into 32 data reports totalling more than 3,000 pages of material. The reports have been distributed to Deans, Department Heads and Program Chairs who will spearhead the consultative change process in accordance with the academic process.
Evaluation Framework - HESA (7 December 2010)

Timeline

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