

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REPORT OF FEBRUARY 26, 2014 EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Action Requested: Receive the report.

Executive Summary: On February 26, 2014, the Education and Student Affairs Committee met to review five accreditation reports submitted by Iowa State University – Architecture Programs; Engineering Programs; Design Programs; Didactic Program in Dietetics; and Dietetic Internship Program. The meeting was held on the ISU campus to facilitate the attendance of appropriate staff members and to allow for an in-depth review of the accreditation reports and their significance to the programs. This report addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to pursue “educational excellence and impact” and Goal #8 – “Iowa’s public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and effective.”

Background:

- ◇ **Architecture Programs.** The Bachelor of Architecture Program consists of one year in the College of Design’s pre-professional Core Design Program and four years in the professional B.Arch. Program. The Master of Architecture program emphasizes architecture as an integrated knowledge of design/media, intellectual rigor, science/technology, and professional responsibility.
 - ⇒ Architecture Chair Deborah Hauptmann provided highlights of the programs.
 - ⇒ There are 595 students in the two programs (UG = 537; G = 58).
 - ⇒ In FY 2012, 86% of the graduates were employed and 10% were pursuing additional education.
 - ⇒ There are 36.12 FTE Architecture Department faculty.
 - ⇒ Architecture courses have been offered at ISU since the university first enrolled students in 1869. The department was established in 1914 under the designation Structural Design.
 - ⇒ The accrediting body is the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB).
 - ⇒ The two programs received accreditation for eight years, the maximum term granted to an institution.
 - ⇒ Four of the 55 accreditation conditions were not met. The four conditions are under discussion in the department. However, a number of changes will occur in the near future, e.g., changes to the studio structure will be implemented in Fall 2014.
 - ⇒ Continuing accreditation is subject to two reporting requirements – (1) annual statistical reports; and (2) Interim Progress Report two and five years after the on-site visit.
 - ⇒ There were two conditions met with distinction – technical documentation and collaboration.
 - ⇒ Dean Luis Rico Gutierrez stressed the importance of collaboration and interaction with practitioners through the advisory council, student internships, and a public presence, such as Design on Main.

- ◇ Engineering Programs. The College of Engineering offers Bachelor of Science programs in engineering in 12 areas – Aerospace Engineering; Agricultural Engineering; Biological Systems Engineering (new); Chemical Engineering; Civil Engineering; Computer Engineering; Construction Engineering; Electrical Engineering; Industrial Engineering; Materials Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; and Software Engineering (new).
 - ⇒ Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Gary Mirka provided highlights of the programs.
 - ⇒ The accrediting body is the ABET Engineering Accreditation Commission.
 - ⇒ All of the programs were accredited for the maximum period of six years; two programs were accredited for the first time – Biological Systems Engineering and Software Engineering.
 - ⇒ The accreditation process provides value to the programs and graduates – (1) provides proof that a collegiate program has met certain standards necessary to produce graduates who are ready to enter their professions; and (2) ensures that students who graduate from accredited programs have access to enhanced opportunities in employment; licensure, registration and certification; graduate education and global mobility.
 - ⇒ There were no deficiencies identified for any of the programs.
 - ⇒ There were weaknesses identified for two programs (Chemical Engineering and Construction Engineering); both were resolved – Chemical Engineering added a required hazard control course; Construction Engineering formalized the coverage of several topics in their courses and syllabi.
 - ⇒ Concerns were identified for four programs – Aerospace Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Construction Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. All of the concerns except for those in Mechanical Engineering were resolved. The College is addressing the concerns in faculty and facilities for the Mechanical Engineering Program – new faculty were hired in Fall 2013; and enhancement of the facility is being considered.
 - ⇒ The College has a focus on experiential/hands-on learning; there are 50 student organizations that allow students to participate in engineering related activities. This focus has led to increased retention rates in the programs.
 - ⇒ There are no focused reviews or interim reports required prior to the next accreditation visit in 2019.
 - ⇒ Dean Sarah Rajala indicated that the participation of women in engineering programs across the country is 18-19%; ISU is slightly below the national average.

- ◇ Design Programs. All of the programs whose content is 25% or greater in the design area were included in the accreditation process.
 - ⇒ Integrated Studio Arts Chair Ingrid Lilligren provided highlights of the programs.
 - ⇒ There were 13 programs in the College of Design; two programs in the College of Human Sciences; and one program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
 - ⇒ There are 1,062 students in Graphic Design, Interior Design, Industrial Design, Integrated Studio Arts, and the Bachelor of Design (UG = 749; G = 97).
 - ⇒ 87% to 97% of the graduates reported being employed or pursuing additional education.
 - ⇒ There are 56.15 FTE faculty in the four program areas.

- ⇒ The accrediting body is the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).
 - ⇒ Graduation from a NASAD accredited program is not a requirement for practice. However, accreditation provides value to the programs and graduates – benchmarks curriculum relative to national standards; results in development and implementation of assessment tools; provides an ability to quantify qualitative outcomes; and enhances commonalities and distinctions through participation across departments and programs.
 - ⇒ All programs received accreditation for the maximum period of five years.
 - ⇒ The Industrial Design programs were not eligible for accreditation because no students had graduated at the time of the review; however, they were granted Plan Approval.
 - ⇒ There was deferred action on the application for Plan Approval for the Bachelor of Design Program because “it remains unclear how the institution meets standards regarding liberal arts degree title and content consistency.” The College is engaged in discussions about this issue.
 - ⇒ The Commission commended the institution for “its thorough Self-Study and informative Optional Response and for developing what appears to be a unique pro-professional degree program in design.”
- ◆ Didactic Programs in Dietetics. The Didactic Program in Dietetics includes two tracks – Bachelor of Science Program in Dietetics and the concurrent BS/MS Program in Diet and Exercise.
- ⇒ Program Director Anne Oldham provided highlights of the programs.
 - ⇒ The accrediting body is the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND).
 - ⇒ The programs received accreditation for the maximum period of 10 years in 2008. Preparation of the Program Assessment Report was required at the five-year interval; the report submitted by the University addressed the standards of accreditation and fulfilled the requirements for a mid-accreditation review.
 - ⇒ To become a registered dietitian, it is necessary to complete a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in an accredited program; complete an accredited supervised practice program; pass the national examination administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration; and maintain registered dietician credentialing through continuing education.
 - ⇒ According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the employment of registered dietitians is projected to grow by 21% from 2012 to 2022.
 - ⇒ The Didactic Program in Dietetics is administered through the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department at ISU; it is the only accredited program in the state of Iowa.
 - ⇒ Enrollment in the program increased from 224 in Fall 2008 to 273 in Fall 2012.
 - ⇒ During the past five years; 91% of ISU graduates passed the registration examination on the first attempt; 99% passed it within one year of the first attempt. ACEND’s first-time pass rate benchmark is 80%.

- ⇒ Director Oldham indicated that approximately 91% of the program enrollees are female.
- ⇒ The accrediting body commended the program's "commitment to the quality and continued improvement of the program as demonstrated during the accreditation process and commended the students and program for the 91% pass rate."
- ◇ Dietetic Internship Program. This non-degree program is a full-time, 25-week distance program offering at least 1200 hours of supervised practice in medical nutrition therapy, community nutrition, and food service management with a concentration area in health promotion and technology.
 - ⇒ Program Director Jean Anderson provided highlights of the program.
 - ⇒ The program offers four locations – (1) Iowa-based location; (2) national location; (3) Iowa-based with international location; and (4) national with international location.
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 - ⇒ This program is administered through the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department at ISU.
 - ⇒ Successful completion of the program provides eligibility to sit for the registered dietitian national exam and Graduate Certificate in Dietetics Internship.
 - ⇒ There are two dietetics internship programs in Iowa – (1) the University of Iowa which enrolls 12 interns per year at UIHC and (2) Iowa State University.
 - ⇒ Iowa State University's program enrollment grew from eight interns in 1996 to 34 in 2007 to 130 in 2013 with accreditation for 180 interns per year; it uses locations across Iowa and the country. It is the only accredited program to offer optional international community nutrition rotation in Ghana, West Africa through a collaboration with the University of Ghana and McGill University.
 - ⇒ Interns are located throughout Iowa and in 36 other states.
 - ⇒ During the past five years, 85% of ISU graduates who applied to accredited dietetics internships were matched with an internship that year.
 - ⇒ ISU's condensed internship program allows alumni to enter the labor market sooner than other programs which helps graduates manage their student debt load.
 - ⇒ 85% of alumni who responded to a survey were employed.
 - ⇒ Director Anderson indicated that there is on-going monitoring of program outcomes and that a number of enhancements have been made to the program beyond those required, including (1) continued development of simulations to use through distance education to augment supervised practice using ThinkSpace; (2) providing online training for preceptors; and (3) providing continuing education for preceptors through ThinkSpace modules.
 - ⇒ Alumni play a significant role in the program by serving as preceptors to interns during their program.