Cover Sheet: Request 14559

Terminate Fitness Wellness Specialization - BS in APK

Info

Process	Specialization|New/Modify/Close|Ugrad
Status	Pending at PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
Submitter	Joslyn Ahlgren jahlgren@ufl.edu
Created	12/17/2019 10:36:12 AM
Updated	12/30/2019 10:10:55 AM
Description of request	APK would like to terminate our Fitness Wellness specialization in order to offer a single curriculum that would accommodate all of our students. A separate request will be submitted for the second of two specializations in our major.

Actions

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Department	Approved	HHP - Applied Physiology and Kinesiology 012603000	Joslyn Ahlgren		12/17/2019
No document changes					
College	Approved	HHP - College of Health and Human Performance	Sarah Eberhart		12/20/2019
No document changes					
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs	Approved	PV - APUG Review	Casey Griffith		12/30/2019
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Pending	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)			12/30/2019
No document changes					
Office of the Registrar					
No document changes					
Student Academic Support System					
No document changes					
Catalog					
No document changes					
College Notified					
No document changes					

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Specialization|Close for request 14559

Info

Request: Terminate Fitness Wellness Specialization - BS in APK
Description of request: APK would like to terminate our Fitness Wellness specialization in order to offer a single curriculum that would accommodate all of our students. A separate request will be submitted for the second of two specializations in our major.
Submitter: Joslyn Ahlgren jahlgren@ufl.edu
Created: 12/17/2019 10:33:48 AM
Form version: 1

Responses

Termination Date Spring 2020
Phase-Out Date Spring 2023
Specialization Name(s) Fitness Wellness
Rationale for Request APK currently offers two tracks. Our Fitness Wellness (FW) track was designed to prepare students to work in the fitness industry or in allied health sciences (such as working as an Exercise Physiologist in a cardiac rehab center). Our Exercise Physiology (EP) track was designed to prepare students for graduate school or post-bac health programs (such as Physical Therapy or Medicine). APK would like to have a single curriculum plan as opposed to our current two-track system. There are a number of reasons for this move:

1. Many of our FW students are already taking and excelling in courses in the proposed curriculum (average data from all FW students Spring 13-Spring 18):
BIO 1: 74% took the class and 92.5% passed
BIO 1L: 74% took the class and 98% passed
BIO 2: 42% took the class and 93% passed
BIO 2L: 42% took the class and 97% passed
CHEM 1: 68% took the class and 76% passed
CHEM 1L: 67% took the class and 97% passed
PHYS 1: 33% took the class and 82% passed
PHYS 1L: 32% took the class and 95% passed
2. The proposed 8-semester plan affords students autonomy within their chosen major while ensuring that fundamental APK concepts and content are mandated.
3. Having less distinction between our tracks means that our students will have greater heterogeneity within their courses, which is good for a number of reasons. Namely, enhanced classroom diversity supports the “Exercise is Medicine” initiative by facilitating student relationships NOW that can facilitate meaningful, professional endeavors later on in their career—particularly those that aim to marry the fields of Fitness and Healthcare.

To summarize, students are informally combining tracks already. Many of our FW students are still pre-health and changing the curriculum to have a single track with enhanced options/flexibility would decrease confusion for students trying to navigate the two tracks. Furthermore, this plan would help academic advisors provide consistent, straight-forward advice and aid department administrators with course scheduling. Additionally, we feel that enhanced rigor the lower division will better prepares students for their upper division coursework. In particular, our current FW students are not required to complete Physics I; however, this results in more struggles for those students in our Biomechanical Basis of Movement course.

In the process of vetting this proposal, APK faculty asked some good questions. Those questions and responses are below and provide further clarification and support for this proposal.

Question 1: With the removal of Chem 2 and Calc, will there be enough room in this plan for pre-health students to complete prerequisite courses for their pre-health aspirations?
Response: Our Academic Advisor has developed two 8-semester plans for pre-med, pre-medical honors, pre-PA, and pre-PT students based on the proposed curriculum. Some summer work would be required, but UF students must take at least nine credits of summer courses in order to graduate—which we are not allowed to reflect in our 8-semester plans. Those courses can be taken at other institutions and transferred in if necessary or desired. Additionally, very few students come in

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with zero credits, so the chance of a student following any 8-semester plan exactly is very slim.

Question 2: By shifting to a curriculum that is closer to the EP track, will we inadvertently limit minority enrollment?
Response: We do not anticipate losing any of our students. Historically, the two most limiting courses for our students tend to be Calculus and Chemistry 2, which would not be required. Additionally, we have a similar distribution of males and females in both tracks and a similar distribution of white and non-white students in both tracks:

FW	Females: 66.3%	Males: 33.7%
EP	Females: 62.4%	Males: 37.6%
UF	Females: 55.6%	Males: 44.6%

FW	White students: 53.3%	Non-white students: 42.86%*
EP	White students: 56.28%	Non-white students: 41.06%*
UF	White students: 55.5%	Non-white students: 44.5%

*Does not include those who did not respond

Impact on Other Programs The only foreseeable impact on other programs would be changes to course enrollment in four specific courses:

i) HUN 2201 – expected significant increase in enrollment
ii) MAN 3025 – expected minor decrease in enrollment
iii) MAR 3023 – expected minor decrease in enrollment
iv) HSC 3102 – expected minor/moderate decrease in enrollment
v) PHYS 2053/2053L - expected minor increase in enrollment

External consultations have been obtained from each of the academic units offering these courses and all five approve of our proposal. All of these courses would be listed as approved electives for our students.

Steps Taken to Inform Students and Faculty Faculty have voted on the proposed curriculum change and voted unanimously to terminate the specializations in order to offer a single curriculum without specializations. Pending approval of our curriculum change proposal, an email will be sent to all current students informing them of the intent to terminate the specializations and letting them know that they are able to adopt the new curriculum plan if desired. Additionally, a courtesy email will be sent to all FCS and SUS institutions informing them of the change.

Teach-Out Plan Because none of our courses are changing, there is no "teach out" plan needed. Our department will still offer the same courses, which will allow any student still in the specialization to complete courses along side students not in a specialization.

Accommodation of Faculty Because none of our courses are changing, there is no faculty accommodation plan needed. Our department will still offer the same courses.