

Academic Senate Proposal for Change

This proposal is the formal request for consideration to change the organizational structure of the Nursing/Allied Health Departments. Currently the structure consists primarily of the Nursing Department (Registered Nursing Program, Vocational Nursing Program, and Nurse Assistant Program) and the Allied Health Department (Radiologic Technology Program and MEDS courses which are stand-alone courses). The representation has been in the form of a Department Chair for Nursing and a shared governance chair for Allied Health. (Refer to the current org chart document). The Director of the Fire Technology Program has only been responsible for Fire courses. The responsibility for evaluations, scheduling, hiring of additional adjunct, and curriculum review/assessments for MEDS courses and EMT-C has been assumed by the Nursing Department Chair.

Upon my initial term as the Nursing Dept. Chair, the role involved the scheduling of approximately 4-5 sections of MEDS B60 (medical terminology) and 1-2 sections of EMT. Over the past 2-3 years, the Allied health department has grown significantly with the addition of 2 new programs (PBHS and HEIT), an increase in the number of sections of MEDS courses, and an increase in the sections of EMT along with the creation of a credit granting Paramedic Program which was previously offered through contract education. All of these situations required the hiring of new faculty. This growth has led to the following issues:

- The new programs have not been officially associated with a department creating questions about the number of votes per department and committee/governance representation. The current structure with only a shared governance chair is no longer effective: The Allied Health areas beyond radiology technology need the opportunity for representation in various venues.
- Identification of a person responsible for the evaluation of new faculty and dual enrollment courses (MEDS courses).
- Curriculum development and revision for programs and courses requires the approval of a Department Chair.

To compound the issue, Fire, as a department, has had tremendous growth but has not consistently had governance representation on committees.

As a solution, the proposed re-organization chart creates a new department- Allied Health/Public Services. Since these areas report to the same Dean, it seemed appropriate to put them together for purposes of obtaining a Department Chair. As reflected in the proposed re-organization chart, creating the Allied Health/Public Services Department would have 10 FT faculty and 15 adjunct based on fall 2016 data.

I do recognize that this structural change will require CCA approval. I do not anticipate any opposition in that the need is demonstrated by the data but acknowledge that all of the issues may not have been mentioned.

The re-organization has been discussed with the Dean over these areas (Cindy Collier) and she approves and states it is supported by the College President and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Johnson

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