ACADEMIC AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO AND OPERATIONS REVIEW

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM PHASE 1 TEMPLATE

Name of school/college: School of Theology and Ministry
Name of department/program: Master of Art in Transforming Spirituality MATS
Date: June 2, 2016

Introduction

As the school/college reviews and builds out data sets provided by the university, it will also solicit, in a manner appropriate to the organization and culture of that school/college, the information needed from departments or programs for well-informed analysis and recommendations. Such material falls into two categories:

1. Workload and operations information that is held (or largely held) within the department/program rather than the school/college or central university data sources, such as faculty service performed within the department/program.
2. Information, perspectives, and concerns that the department/program believes should be considered as part of the broader review, such as challenges inherent to teaching within a particular discipline.

The questions below reflect the baseline information that meets the criteria above. Schools and colleges should feel free to add to these questions as appropriate. Please note that this template is part of the Workload and Operations phase; each department/program will have another opportunity to provide information relevant to the Portfolio Review.

Department/Program Review

Please address the questions below and add whatever information deemed relevant to this process.

To the extent that this information is not already available in the template for your school or college, advise regarding the parts of the workload for your faculty not captured by course load and credit generation measures. In particular, if there is any research/scholarship/creative work or service that distinguishes the contributions of the faculty in this department or program from others in the school/college and university, please describe it.

Response: ***The one full time tenured faculty in the discipline of spirituality currently serves as Director of Formation for all six degree programs at the School and teaches in five of the six degree programs. The faculty also teaches in two of the Post Master Certificate programs one in Spirituality and the other in Spiritual Direction.***

The full time tenured faculty in Spirituality serves in the Doctor of Ministry program as chair to several DMin projects. Spirituality is a much sought out arena for DMin projects. In addition, the faculty member also serves on several thesis committees for the Doctorate in Education in the College of Education. Spirituality is one of the cognates associated with this degree program.

Is there information that needs to be considered as a part of an analysis of the "teaching productivity" of the department or program? Are there differentiators in the kinds of instruction taking place or the population of students being educated that impact the ability of faculty to generate credit hours?

Response: ***Spirituality courses have always been of interest to the student body and are subscribed at a good rate by students. Many of the courses have formational elements to the course content that often require intensive follow through by the faculty. Spirituality classes require class hours as well as mentoring by the faculty member to students. Having only one full time faculty member hinders a proper rotation of required courses on any three year plan.***

What unrealized opportunities do you see? Are there ways that the contributions of the department/program to the mission and financial health of the university could be improved?

Response: ***The MATS degree program attracts much interest in the School's marketing strategy. There are many inquiries for the degree and often inquirers either seek the degree or find another STM degree program that better matches their academic interest. The MATS degree is currently a 72 credit hour degree program/3 years and would benefit from a revision of the program to a two year/ 54 credit hour program.***

What particular constraints or challenges does the department/program face?

Response: ***Currently there is only one full time tenured faculty in spirituality. Several adjuncts compliment the full time faculty member in fulfilling the required courses in spirituality which is in all the degree programs (MAPS, MDiv, MATL, MACRF) as well as in MATS degree program.***

Is there anything else you would like to put on the record?

Response: