Purpose

To ensure academic programming decisions are made with input from appropriate advisory and decision-making college constituents and that all stakeholders are notified of programmatic changes at the college in a timely manner.

Policy

The office of the VP for Instruction and Student Services (VPISS) is responsible for ensuring all academic programming inactivation follows VCCS policy (Table 5.3) approval and/or notification processes. In addition, this office is responsible for ensuring all academic student services units and students enrolled in inactivated programs are notified.

Procedure

1. Faculty who wish to inactivate an academic program consult their respective division dean to review VCCS (Table 5.3) and college procedures (listed below).

   a. Faculty wishing to inactivate a career studies certificate, certificate, specialization within an existing degree or AAS degree collaborate with the dean and the Advisory Board to determine if inactivation is appropriate. In addition, the VCCS program inactivation procedures (Table 5.3) must be completed.

   b. Faculty wishing to inactivate a “transfer degree” (AA or AS) must collaborate with the division dean to ensure the VCCS program inactivation procedures (Table 5.3) are completed.

2. Upon completion of requirements for program inactivation, the respective academic dean will present the proposal to the V.P for Instruction and Student Services (ISS) group for review. This is done to ensure all VCCS requirements have been met and are clearly articulated.

3. After ISS review, the involved faculty present the request for inactivation proposal to the college’s Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) Committee for review and approval for recommendation to the President’s Staff.

4. After approval by the C&I committee the proposal is presented to the President’s Staff by the VPISS.
5. After approval by the President’s Staff the proposal is presented to the College Board.

6. After approval by the College Board, the VPISS will provide the required documentation to the Director of Institutional Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (who serves as the college’s SACS liaison) for submission to SACS.

7. Furthermore, the VPISS’s office will use the following procedures regarding the approved program inactivation:

a. The VPISS’s office will notify the division dean of the approval for inactivation.

b. The Division Administrative Assistant will run a standard query to determine all students currently enrolled in the plan, and Division Dean will notify, in writing, all currently enrolled program students of the program closure. This notification will include the approved “teach out” plan and consequences of not participating in the “teach out” plan.

c. VPISS’s office will inform Admissions & Records (through the Registrar’s Office) of new curriculum or inactivated existing curriculum with corresponding Academic Plan Code*. Admissions & Records will ensure that:

   1) Web application is updated;
   2) Academic Plan Code is entered into PeopleSoft; and
   3) Advisor(s) is assigned to new curriculum plan.

d. VPISS’s office will inform Admissions & Records, Financial Aid, the Welcome Center and the Counseling Center of program inactivation.

e. VPISS’s office will inactivate the curriculum in the PeopleSoft database using the notification date as the effective date.

f. VPISS’s office will remove program from program review schedule.

g. The program inactivation date and end of “teach out” date will be logged into the program “Addition/Inactivation” database.

h. Each fall the VPISS will remind deans to check the database to determine if inactivated program “teach out” dates will be reached during the current year.

i. When the “teach out” date has been reached, the dean will run a query to determine if any students are still enrolled in the inactivated program. The dean will then write a memo to the Registrar requesting students still enrolled in the program be placed in the program identified in the letter sent to the student.

j. The dean will then inform the student, in writing, into which program they have been placed.

k. Copies of all correspondence are placed in the student’s permanent academic record.