Proposed Policy

Advertising Unapproved Programs or Program Changes

New programs or changes to programs that are in the planning or proposal stages [i.e. they have not yet been approved via the Curriculum Proposal Process (CPS)] may only be advertised or promoted as “pending approvals – students may not be admitted to a program that is not represented in the current OSU Catalog.” They may not be posted to websites or via any other public announcements (such as emails, brochures, etc.) as though they currently exist nor can a date be posted (such as coming in Fall 2015) unless that implementation date has been reviewed and approved by the Registrar’s Office.

Rationale

The OSU catalog is the legally binding contract with the students with respect to the curriculum. If a program is advertised to students without it being in the catalog, this makes OSU vulnerable to potential lawsuits.

Curriculum related items become documented for entry into the catalog via proposals submitted into the CPS. Proposers make a request for an effective date for the change to take effect, however the actual effective date is determined by the Registrar's Office.

OLD VERSION: Only addresses new academic programs

Advertising - Timing of Advertisement for New Programs Pending Approval

The guiding policy for advertising new academic programs which are still undergoing the review and approval process is that the content in the media should be literally accurate and not capable of being misinterpreted.

Proposed academic programs in the approval process may be advertised as "Pending OSU and OUS approval" when the final version of the proposal has been submitted to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for review. Proposed programs may be advertised as "Pending OUS approval" when the proposal has been approved by OSU, and has been submitted to the OUS Chancellor's Office for review by the OUS Provosts' Council and the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, Academic Strategies Committee.