

Policies and Definitions for the Curriculum Council's Consideration
v. November 20, 2013

Definition of an academic unit: (near final)

- Is located within the division of Academic Affairs or is the Graduate School, Honors College, or International Programs
- Has a dean, chair, head or director who manages academic/instructional/curriculum elements and responsibilities;
- Is affiliated with academic faculty;
- Participates in ongoing assessment activities and annual assessment reporting; and
- Has an academic discipline with CIP numbered courses and programs.

Program Type Communication Policy (draft – revised version to be reviewed by the Curriculum Council at the 11-26-2013 meeting. This will eventually go to the Faculty Senate for a vote.)

As the University expands to different campuses and delivery modes, it becomes increasingly important to ensure students are informed about how and where a program is delivered and any additional fees and expectations associated with that delivery. This “truth in advertising” will enable students to make informed decisions about the programs in which they choose to engage.

The program types are defined below. These definitions will determine the designation a program receives in the catalog and how it needs to be promoted on program websites and discussed with students during advising.

- “On-campus” programs must have all required courses available on campus (Corvallis, Cascades, or Hatfield Marine Science Center).
- “Ecampus” programs must have the majority of courses and all required degree program courses delivered via Ecampus. NOTE: Some Ecampus programs require a brief in-person internship or assessment or deliver hybrid courses; some lower division courses are not available online via Ecampus (e.g. Bacc Core).
- “Mixed delivery” programs are those that have one or more required courses delivered either solely on-campus OR solely online (via Ecampus or another online delivery). Thus, students who enroll in a mixed-delivery program will have to take a mix of course delivery types to complete the program. NOTE: This excludes hybrid courses which replace in-class time with online time.

POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH A POLICY:

- New processes will need to be developed to support such a change. For example, academic units will need to go through the Curriculum Proposal System to request a change from one “location” designation to another or to add the designation.
- Statements will need to be developed to explicitly inform students about any additional fees associated with a delivery mode. Those statements will need to be made in multiple places, including the catalog, on the academic unit’s website, and on other materials promoting the degree or certificate program.
- Policies may need to be developed around when a program can switch and how it must transition such that existing students who are engaged in an on-campus program are not adversely impacted.
- Potential financial implications, both positive and negative, need to be considered.