General Recommendations

These recommendations accompany and complement the recommendations for specific degree programs. They also address policy issues broadly relevant to program review.

1. The University needs to develop comprehensive and ongoing equipment replacement and maintenance schedules on behalf of the many academic programs that rely on equipment for instructional purposes. It is true that many programs are successful at securing equipment donations, but these donations do not always occur when they are needed. And a program that relies on equipment for instruction should not be penalized because donations are not available. Any approach should be pro-active and take into account the multiple sources of equipment, including Perkins funds and industry-institution partnerships.

2. An effort needs to be made to assure that institutional data is of a more uniform quality. In a number of instances in this review cycle, disparities existed between the data provided by the program and the data provided by Institutional Research and Testing. Wherever the same data is accessed from, the data received should be the same.

3. The College of Allied Health Sciences, the College of Arts and Sciences, and other colleges that may be involved, need to work together so that students needing lab science courses can get them at Ferris in a timely fashion.

4. The College of Allied Health Sciences, the College of Arts and Sciences, and other colleges that may be involved, need to work together so that students needing on-line Cultural Enrichment courses can get them at Ferris in a timely fashion.

5. For the first time, a program housed in the College of Professional and Technological Studies (CPTS) has gone through academic program review. As CPTS becomes more integrated into the university as a peer of the other colleges, conversations need to occur so that services available to students in main-campus colleges are also available to CPTS students.

6. Review of the programs in this cycle reveals great disparities among colleges regarding criteria used for the granting of release time. APRC recommends the development of more uniform time release criteria across the institution.

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