Northern Illinois University Academic Program Prioritization Criteria Questions

Criterion 1: Quality of Faculty and Faculty Outcomes [16%]

**Question 1.1 Faculty Attributes**: Describe and discuss how faculty credentials, skills and capacities affect the quality of the program.

**Question 1.2 Exemplary Recognition**: Describe the recognition (e.g., honors and awards) the faculty bring to the program and institution in the area of professional and public service and other exemplary performance.

**Question 1.3 Research and Artistry**: Describe and quantify the track record of the program faculty in producing research and artistry.

**Question 1.4 Teaching**: Describe and provide measures for the quality and quantity of teaching.

Criterion 2: Quality of Students and Student Outcomes [16%]

**Question 2.1 Student Perceptions**: Discuss data on student perceptions, including but not limited to student satisfaction, student preparedness, and job placement.

**Question 2.2 Student Performance**: Describe student performance and present student data for five years on external measures that your program has available (e.g., state/national exam scores, professional licensures, certification, admission to graduate/professional schools, professional honors or awards).

**Question 2.3 Student Learning Outcomes**: Discuss data that are routinely collected as part of your assessment of student learning outcomes. Be sure to include employer satisfaction where available.

**Question 2.4 Student Engagement**: Discuss trends in student engagement curricular and co-curricular activities (e.g., internships, Research Rookies, service learning, Study Abroad, etc.). Be sure to include both number of students involved and outcomes of activities in the discussion.

**Question 2.5 Persistence and Graduation**: Discuss retention and graduation trends using the data provided. Where possible comment on appropriateness of time to degree.

Criterion 3: Financial Efficiency [11%]

**Question 3.1 Peer Comparisons**: Describe your program’s resources as compared to your peer institutions. Use national benchmarking data where available.

**Question 3.2 Fundraising Revenue**: Comment on the fundraising revenue data provided and discuss opportunities that have been pursued or could be pursued by the program to increase development revenue.
Question 3.3 Costs and Revenues: Discuss the trend of program costs (direct/indirect), and revenues as applicable.

Criterion 4: Importance of the Program to the University Mission [16%]

Question 4.1 Teaching and Learning: Describe how the program contributes to the promotion of excellence and engagement in teaching and learning.

Question 4.2 Research and Artistry: Describe how the program contributes to the promotion of excellence and engagement in research, scholarship, creativity and artistry.

Question 4.3 Outreach and Service: Describe how the program contributes to the promotion of excellence and engagement in outreach and service.

Question 4.4 Role in Program Portfolio: Explain why the program has an important role to play in the university’s program portfolio.

Criterion 5: Program Potential [11%]

Question 5.1 Improved Effectiveness: Discuss opportunities that exist for improving the effectiveness of the program (consider shared resource opportunities with other programs or units, collaborative opportunities, etc).

Question 5.2 Interdisciplinary Efforts: Discuss the interdisciplinary opportunities that could be undertaken by the program and how these could be achieved.

Question 5.3 Disciplinary Efforts: Describe the actions necessary in order to make the program exemplary in the discipline, if not already.

Criterion 6: External Demand of the Program [11%]

Question 6.1 Career/Society Demand: Describe the local, state, and national trends for this program (e.g., employer demand for the program, characteristics of prospective and enrolled students, appropriate level of credentials, etc.). Explain whether the trends indicate a continuing need or expansion of the program.

Question 6.2 Student Demand: Describe the extent that the program is in demand by newly-admitted students and potential students.

Question 6.3 Unmet Demand: Describe the degree to which the demand for this program is being met by peer institutions or competing institutions and if they are experiencing the same kinds of enrollment numbers.

Criterion 7: Internal Demand for the Program [14%]

Question 7.1 Trends for Majors: Discuss the enrollment trend and whether there are any expected changes in the future.
**Question 7.2 Trends for Non-Majors:** Describe the percentage of program enrollment, in terms of credit hours generated, for these categories: minors, certificates, general education, or service purposes. If relevant, describe how the program contributes to the success of other programs.

**Question 7.3 Student Migration:** Discuss migration of students in and out of the major using the data provided.

**Criterion 8: Program’s Contribution to Diversity [5%]**

**Question 8.1 Student Diversity:** Discuss the diversity trend of students in the program and whether there are any expected changes in the future. Comment on recruitment and retention efforts to increase student diversity and the outcomes of those efforts.

**Question 8.2 Faculty Diversity:** Discuss the three-year diversity trend of faculty in the program and whether there are any expected changes in the future. Comment on recruitment and retention efforts to increase faculty diversity and the outcomes of those efforts.

**Question 8.3 Diversity Actions:** Describe how the program is addressing the issues of inclusion and diversity through curriculum, research, and service.