Program Prioritization at NIU

What
• A data-informed process used to align available resources with institutional priorities, and assure that academic and administrative programs reflect NIU mission and strategic goals

Why
• to position NIU for excellence and value in terms of academic and administrative programs.
• build a strong foundation for maintaining and improving the quality of academic and administrative programs across NIU
• keep programs and resources in sync

When/How
• stay tuned….
Program Prioritization Timeline (Intended)

Fall 2014
• Initial exploration of program prioritization.
• Development of Coordinating Team.
• Preliminary communications with campus.

Spring and Summer 2015
• Development of criteria with campus input.
• Nomination and selection of Task Force members.
• Initial gathering of data in support of criteria (with assistance of data support group).
• Initial data analysis by program faculty and staff.
• Continued communications with campus.
Program Prioritization Timeline (Intended)

Fall 2015

- Continued analysis of program data by faculty and staff (continued support by data support group).
- Continued communications with campus.
- Initial analyses of programs by Task Forces.

Spring 2016

- Completed analyses of programs by Task Forces, with final prioritization into 5 groups (quintiles)
- Resource allocation by senior leadership based on program prioritization for FY17.
- Continued communications with campus.
Basic Components of Program Prioritization

• Guiding Principles
• Inventory of Programs
• Criteria for Program Evaluation
• Data Templates/Submission Format
• Review Panel
• Scoring System
• Processes for Connecting Findings to Action Steps
NIU: Conference Attendees/Coordinating Team

- Jeff Reynolds
- Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb
- Susan Mini
- Bill Pitney
- Brett Coryell
- Marc Falkoff
- Denise Schoenbachler
- Andy Small
- Kelly Wesener Michael
- Carolinda Douglass
- Lisa Freeman
ROLE OF COORDINATING TEAM

Communications Support
- Marketing & Communications
- Division of Information Technology
- Office of the Provost Staff

Data Support
- Institutional Research
- Registration & Records
- Academic Analysis & Reporting
- Sponsored Projects

Expert Advisors
- Cabinet Members
- Council of Deans
- Academic Planning Council
- Resource, Space & Budget Committee
- Core Budget Team

Facilitator: C. Douglass

University Community
Programs

NIU
Program = any activity or collection of activities of the institution that consumes resources (dollars, people, space, equipment, time)

Program ≠ Department

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
- Instructional/Degree
- Center/Institute
- Academic Departments typically contain more than one program (ex: Bachelors, Masters, Doctoral, Minor, General Education)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS
- Support directly or in ancillary/auxiliary capacity, the mission of the university, including that of the student mission
- Some programs housed in Academic Affairs are considered administrative for prioritization purposes
- Administrative divisions and departments may contain multiple programs
1. History, Development, and Expectations of the Program.
2. External Demand for the Program.
3. Internal Demand for the Program.
4. Quality of Program Inputs and Processes.
5. Quality of Program Outcomes.
6. Size, Scope, and Productivity of the Program.
7. Revenue and Other Resources Generated by the Program.
8. Costs and Other Expenses Associated with the Program.
9. Impact, Justification, and Overall Essentiality of the Program.
10. Opportunity Analysis of the Program.
Administrative Criteria (Endpoint for Drake, UMD)

1. Importance to the University
2. External/Internal Demand
3. Quality
4. Cost Effectiveness
5. Opportunity Analysis
## Two Task Forces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMIC PROGRAMS</th>
<th>ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprised solely of faculty nominated by their peers for their “trustee mentality”</td>
<td>Comprised of faculty and staff nominated by their peers for their “trustee mentality”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representatives from all colleges across the university</td>
<td>Representatives from all divisions across the university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate academic programs based on criteria selected and weighted by an inclusive and iterative process</td>
<td>Evaluate administrative programs based on criteria selected and weighted by an inclusive and iterative process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review information analyzed by academic program faculty</td>
<td>Review information analyzed by administrative program staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide prioritization of academic programs by quintiles for senior leadership to use for resource allocation</td>
<td>Provide prioritization of administrative programs by quintiles for senior leadership to use for resource allocation</td>
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Questions & (not all) Answers

KEEP CALM
BECAUSE
I DON'T KNOW