



LEAD CHANGE * BUILD FUTURES * STRENGTHEN MAINE

PROGRAM INTEGRATION (FORMERLY "APRIP")

Report to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee
UMS Board of Trustees
Ellen Chaffee, Executive Director
September 1, 2015

The Board's Strategic Initiative Target 4 focuses attention on academic transformation through portfolio review and academic program integration through Academic Program Review and Integration Process (APRIP). We are discontinuing the use of *APRIP* because it was not clear what initiatives it encompassed and each is proceeding differently.¹ We continue to use the term *Portfolio Review*, which assesses portfolios of academic programs across the system for their financial sustainability, service to state needs, and mission criticality under the leadership of the Presidents Council and the Chief Academic Officers. *Program Integration* is the name of the initiative involving discipline-based academic teams that launched round 1 last winter and will launch round 2 this month to increase collaboration, quality, access, and financial sustainability. *Academic transformation* is an umbrella term that can include portfolio review, program integration, and other academic initiatives as may be defined in the future.

STATUS OF PROGRAM INTEGRATION (PI), ROUND 1

Implementation of Round 1 team recommendations is iterative. CAOs are leading the first wave now in communication with team leaders. They will revisit team reports and develop additional team recommendations as time and support systems allow. The Chancellor has reviewed and approved the CAO plans for FY2016 with some helpful revisions, often involving additional market research or other analysis to demonstrate likelihood of positive outcomes.

Plans for Round 1 collaborative arrangements include:

1. Joint or system degrees
 - a. History: explore statewide programming
 - b. Business: one MBA for UMaine and USM
 - c. Criminal Justice: one associate's degree, common course numbers and outcomes
 - d. Education: common M.Ed. in Instructional Technology (UMaine, USM, UMF)
 - e. Languages: statewide program for language acquisition in French and Spanish
 - f. Marine Sciences: 4+1 Professional Science Master's degree
 - g. Nursing: pursue fully aligned/unified nursing curriculum

¹ The web site for this initiative is now called [Program Integration](#) instead of APRIP.

2. Shared courses and faculty
 - a. Education: collaborative delivery of secondary education methods courses statewide
 - b. History: all UMS history faculty are welcome to apply for UMaine graduate faculty status
 - c. Recreation and tourism: semester-long residencies at other campuses for specialized opportunities
3. Defining pathways for students to get into programs from other institutions
 - a. Education: 3+2 in Rehabilitation and Counselor Education; pathways into graduate education
 - b. Engineering: uniform curriculum for lower-division mechanical and electrical engineering students (UMaine, USM); clear pathway for transfer into UMaine/USM engineering from other campuses
 - c. Recreation and tourism: define pathways for 4+1 articulation into graduate work
4. Short courses and certificates
 - a. History: certificates in Canadian Studies and in War and Peace
 - b. Recreation and tourism: expand short courses; market-based certificate programs

Most teams also have plans to make collaboration an ongoing process among them.

Round 1 team members noted the need for many statewide significant changes to support PI recommendations now and in the future. They fall generally in two categories: (1) instructional technologies that effectively support significantly increased inter-campus and remote-student delivery and (2) integrated/accessible student functions and services for seamless support of simultaneous enrollment at multiple campuses.

A unified budget will be a great advantage for collaborative academic initiatives. Planning for a Unified Online initiative is underway and is essential for implementation of Program Integration recommendations. Nearly every function of every institution (such as financial aid, registration, academic policies, tuition policy, bursar functions, institutional research, and information technology) is impacted.

PROGRAM INTEGRATION (PI), ROUND 2

Program Integration Round 2 will include seven teams: mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, English, psychology, and social work. The launch event is Saturday, September 26 in Orono. Their reports are due February 1, 2016.

Most of the Round 2 disciplines have a significant presence in lower-division general education programs. The charge to such teams includes establishing common course numbers for equivalent courses. All team charges also encourage economies by using online delivery to reduce the number of small and duplicative classes. Each CAO will mentor one of the teams from the beginning, in addition to overseeing implementation for one or more disciplines from Round 1. The teams will have more internal data earlier than was possible in Round 1, and the goal is to provide earlier access to existing or commissioned market research for them.

The Oversight Committee will continue to provide advice and monitor progress this year, but they will meet less often now that the initial phase is complete. Much of what remains to do either we have done before or requires a longer time frame to develop. They have received two written updates over the summer. Their first meeting for the fall is the morning of September 25 in Bangor. That afternoon we will meet with all seven team leaders to orient them to the project, their roles, and their support/communication options.