

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Item Name: Request for New Academic Unit For Northern Arizona University (NAU)

- Action Item
- Committee Recommendation to Full Board
- First Read of Proposed Policy Change
- Information or Discussion Item

Issue: NAU asks the committee to review and forward to the full board for approval to split the Department of Sociology & Social Work into two separate academic units.

Enterprise or University Strategic Plan

- Empower Student Success and Learning
- Advance Educational Attainment within Arizona
- Create New Knowledge
- Impact Arizona
- Compliance
- Real property purchase/sale/lease
- Other: Academic Strategic Plan

Statutory/Policy Requirements

ABOR Policy 2-223.A, "The Academic Strategic Plan"

Background/History of Previous Board Action

NAU requests approval for the Department of Sociology & Social Work to be split into two separate academic units.

Discussion

Information on the departments is contained in the attached table.

Requested Action

NAU asks the committee to review and forward to the full board for approval to split the Department of Sociology & Social Work into two separate academic units.

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Academic and Student Affairs Meeting
 September 27, 2017
 Item #5

Proposed Unit and Effective Date	College	Location	Description (max 50 words)	Justification (max 100 words)	New Resources, if any, and Source* Savings/Efficiencies Gained
<p>Department of Sociology & Social Work to be split into two separate academic units: Department of Sociology and Department of Social Work</p>	<p>College of Social and Behavioral Sciences</p>	<p>Flagstaff</p>	<p>The two units will support distinct programmatic development and enrollment. Social Work is a professional program with specialized accreditation; it offers courses that exclusively support social work programs. Sociology is a liberal arts program that offers extensive course work in support of the Liberal Studies program, as well as undergraduate and graduate degree programs.</p>	<p>The social work program has grown substantially over the last several years and is now offering its BSW degree program online. The program launches an MSW degree program in Fall 2018. The growth of student enrollment and elaboration of programming in social work necessitates dedicated leadership and an organizational context that will support distinctive, year round operations and reporting requirements associated with specialized accreditation through the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).</p>	<p>Existing budget will be split between the two departments. Initial start-up is approximately \$5,000 and combined expenditures will increase costs by approximately \$6,000/year in support of administrative support and an additional chair stipend.</p> <p>Social work served a total of 462 students in its BSW and minor program in Fall 2016 (census degree seeking headcounts); sociology served a total of 479 students in its BS, MA and minor program in Fall 2016. The Sociology program also serves a large number of students on the Flagstaff campus with courses fulfilling Liberal Studies requirements—1916 students (5742 SCH) Fall 2016 census.</p>

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