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## 2-225 Academic Program Review

- A. The primary purposes of academic program review are:
1. To provide information that can be used by the University to strengthen and improve academic programs;
  2. To ensure effective use of state resources;
  3. To provide information for university and system-wide planning;
  4. To reduce unnecessary program duplication within and between Universities and to eliminate unproductive programs;
  5. To provide information for use in University and Board evaluation of new program proposals, of budget requests and of capital project requests.
  6. To identify and provide special recognition for outstanding programs that have achieved national or international stature.
- B. Internal Program Review
1. Each University shall conduct a review of each program at least once every 7 years.
  2. Although departments are the basic unit for review, it is expected that some programs will be reviewed at the college level or at the major level.
  3. Each University shall adopt program review policies that shall include at least the following provisions:
    - a. Each review will include a self-study conducted by administrators and faculty within the unit.

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- b. The review team will include external consultants who are selected through University policies and procedures designed to ensure maximum objectivity.
  - c. The review will include evaluation of all undergraduate and graduate degree programs offered by the unit.
  - d. The review will include an assessment of the adequacy of physical and fiscal resources available to the unit; the quality of the faculty and staff; research, and scholarly or creative activities; student performance; and outcomes of the program and an assessment of the level of the degree productivity.
  - e. The review will include an assessment of the unit's plans and performance related to diversity in the hiring of faculty and staff and to recruitment and retention of students from underrepresented groups.
  - f. For low productive degree programs with graduations below established thresholds, an evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the Board approved guidelines as set forth in the document entitled "A Methodology for Identifying Low Productive and Duplicative Programs" and reported to the Academic Affairs and Educational Attainment Committee. Except when a University recommends elimination of a program, it must provide the additional information specified in the approved methodology.
4. An accreditation review may be used to satisfy the requirements of this Policy only if the review meets all of the criteria established by the Board and the university.
  5. Funding for the reviews shall be provided from the University's existing operating budget.
  6. Each University shall adopt policies and procedures for a systematic and comprehensive follow-up and monitoring of review recommendations.

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7. The results of the reviews shall be reported to the Academic Affairs and Educational Attainment Committee annually on a date and in a format determined by the executive director of the board. The reports shall include specific plans to address deficiencies identified in the review. The Committee may request special follow-up reports on matters of major significance regarding the quality of the program.
  
8. A representative of the board's office or a member of the Academic Affairs and Educational Attainment Committee may observe at least 1 program review on each campus each year.