MOTION: Faculty Senate approves the creation of the Academic Program Prioritization Ad Hoc Committee as described in item “D-1.”

Academic Program Prioritization Ad Hoc Committee (May 12, 2014)

As per recommendations from the Academic Program Prioritization Ad Hoc Committee, as adopted, with some changes, by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee and the Provost, PSU Faculty Senate proposes the establishment of the Academic Program Prioritization Ad Hoc Committee (referenced below as the APPC). The President and Provost, in consultation with the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, have given assurance that the total number of tenure line positions will not decrease as a direct result of the Academic Program Prioritization Process. Tenured faculty may be assigned to another department or program depending on needs and expertise.

COMMITTEE CHARGE:
The APPC is charged with conducting work in the initial, parameter-setting phase of the review process; assigning programs to prioritization categories in the second phase; and overseeing assessment and communication components of the review. In doing so the APPC will:
• Develop additional specifications for the composition and function of the Prioritization Scoring Team;
• Develop additional specifications for identifying and appointing those responsible for assessment and communication activities;
• Determine, in consultation with the Provost’s office and the Faculty Senate, the parameters and benchmarks against which programs will be assessed;
• Determine the type of information that needs to be gathered;
• Compile initial academic program reports submitted by scoring teams;
• Solicit feedback on initial reports from each academic program and develop revised assignment of programs to prioritization categories;
• Participate with existing Faculty Senate standing committees, e.g., Budget Committee, in determining final recommendations.

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION:
The APPC will consist of 7 faculty members with strong prior leadership experience and an understanding of PSU drawn from multiple roles across campus. The APPC may call on other persons and offices as needed for information. Support for the APPC will be provided by the Provost’s Office and the Office of Institutional Research and Planning.

TIMELINE:
The APPC will be appointed Spring 2014 by the President based on recommendations from the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, the Faculty Advisory Committee, and the Provost through a nomination process. Assessment parameters and benchmarks, as well as type of information that needs to be collected will be determined early so that OIRP and units can begin preparing information mid-Fall for submission to APPC in January 2015. APPC will receive, compile, and classify scoring reports, and will work with selected programs to collect additional information beginning mid-Winter 2015. APPC will make revised recommendations early to mid-Spring 2015. Follow-up hearings and joint meetings with standing committees will take place during Spring Term with final recommendations delivered to the Provost and President by the first week of June 2015.