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March 26, 2014

Memo

To: University General Education Committee (UGEC)

From: Dr. Donnie Snider, Dean-College of Education & Human Services

Via: Dr. Nancy Jordon, Assistant Provost General Education

Subject: Change in number of required PEAC activity credits in general education

I have reviewed Dr. Joe Bell's, former department chair of Kinesiology & Nutrition, position paper which outlines the advantages and disadvantages of reducing the general education PEAC activity credits from three to two. Also I have reviewed the Transfer Student Task Force memo dated March 5, 2013 which details the rationale for the recommendation for the reduction in PEAC activity credits.

In addition to the pro/con arguments provided by Dr. Bell and the justifications given by the Task Force I would like to present, from a dean perspective, a few additional points.

1. We have a supply/demand problem with PEAC courses. With the closure of the Teacher Education Physical Education degree track we have insufficient faculty/student intern resources to supply an adequate number of PEAC activity course sections. Most of our students cannot access the required activity courses until their late junior or senior year.
2. In 2012-13 Dr. Bell and I worked with Jared Mosley, Athletic Director, to provide a one hour PEAC activity credit for students participating in athletics. This practice, which is used with the Big Purple Band, reduced the athletes' general education PEAC activity credits to two.
3. Over the last two fiscal years, FY 13 and FY 14, the Department of Kinesiology & Nutrition has been over budget in supplemental and summer salary lines. The annual average of these combined salary line deficits is approximately \$15,000. These salary line deficits were a direct result of overload or summer pay for additional sections of PEAC courses. In FY 14 the department was requested, by the Provost office, to provide an additional \$10,000 in PEAC activity courses to alleviate some of the demand problems. Consequently the department has a projected deficit for FY 14 of about \$25,000. I anticipate the \$25,000 deficit trend to continue into FY 15.