

PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION

AASAP

Aug 27, 2015



**Northern Illinois
University**

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CURRENT STATUS OF PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION

Fall 2014

- ✓ **Initial exploration of Program Prioritization**
- ✓ **Development of Coordinating Team**
- ✓ **Preliminary communications with campus**
- ✓ **Begin ongoing evaluation of Program Prioritization process**

Spring 2015

- ✓ **Establish Guiding Principles**
- ✓ **Define Academic and Administrative Programs**
- ✓ **Develop Criteria with broad campus participation**
- ✓ **Task Force nomination process**
- ✓ **Task Force selection**

CURRENT STATUS OF PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION

Summer 2015

- ✓ Data Support Team in full swing
- ✓ Communications Support Team – Communications Plan for 2015-2016
- ✓ Task Force Training Plan and ongoing meetings with Task Force chairs

Fall 2015

- Training for Task Forces – September 3 and 4, 2015
- Training for authors/approvers on Prioritization Plus, September-November
- Panel of Outside Experts on Program Prioritization
- Program narratives written
- Program narratives approved
- Program narratives closed in December 2015
- Additional Training for Task Forces in November/December 2015

CURRENT STATUS OF PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION

Spring 2016

- Task Forces prioritize programs into five equal categories (quintiles) and provide recommendations by April/May 2016**
 - **Candidate for enhanced resources**
 - **Continue as is, no change in resources**
 - **Continue as is, reduction in resources**
 - **Requires transformation**
 - **Candidate for elimination, consider for further review**
- Student Association panel, Faculty Senate, and other shared governance groups reflect on Task Force Rankings and Recommendations and provide comments to senior leadership**
- Senior leadership determine resource allocation in FY17 budget and beyond influenced by recommendations from Task Force Rankings and Recommendations**
- Begin Phase II – Implementation**

COMMUNICATION TO CAMPUS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

- Program Prioritization is an **opportunity** for NIU to improve our alignment of resource allocation with our priorities to better serve our students,
- A chance to increase program **efficiency** and **quality** across the university,
- An **inclusive** and **transparent** process including shared governance groups, peer review, comprehensive website,
- A process with **rigor** and **integrity** which will result in building a **data-informed culture** and **data infrastructure** on campus,
- Although Program Prioritization was not created as a response to the current budget crisis, it may **help NIU in finding a path out of our current fiscal concerns.**

PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION WEBSITE



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Latest News & Updates

Administrative programs inventory released
August 11, 2015

Academic programs inventory released
July 16, 2015

Program Prioritization task force members announced
June 16, 2015

Program Prioritization Timeline Pushed Forward
May 18, 2015



Program Prioritization

Last fall, NIU began a program prioritization process that will be critical to the growth of the university and our ability to deliver on our cornerstone goal of student career success. Its goal is to build a strong foundation for maintaining and improving the quality of academic and administrative programs across NIU, by assuring that our programs reflect our institutional mission and strategic goals. Program prioritization will help accelerate our ability to create stronger and more lasting connections across our “triangle” of students, faculty and the outside world.

Program prioritization has been employed by more than half of public universities in the United States. Consequently, these universities have used the assets redeployed through the process to reinvest in strong and growing programs and innovate through the development

ACTION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

- **Task Forces will be handing NIU's Senior Leadership rankings and recommendations in April/May 2016 and will be looking for:**
- *Commitment to act upon recommendations in FY17 and 4-5 years beyond,*
- *Commitment to work with units that are negatively impacted to assist with retraining as needed,*
- *Commitment to maintain the data-informed culture and build an ongoing data infrastructure,*
- *Commitment to open and transparent communications from the top down.*

QUOTABLE

“The finest, most sophisticated system for analyzing programs will absolutely fail unless it is championed by strong leaders armed with a clarified mission.”

Robert Dickeson



Northern Illinois University

Q&A



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