

Section 5

Board of Trustees for Fort Lewis College

Academic Affairs

ACADEMIC PLANNING

The chief academic officer with the approval of the President shall develop policies, subject to Board approval for academic planning. These policies shall be consistent with the College's mission and conform to requirements of statute and the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE).

The CCHE objectives for academic planning seek to assure that higher education governing boards and institutions have planning processes in place, use them in decision making, and that state and system goals are achieved. The College shall adhere to the CCHE Academic Planning Policy.

FACULTY HANDBOOK

All commitments and obligations of the College and the Board contained in the Faculty Handbook are contingent upon availability of state funds and are subject to Article XI, Sections 1 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Colorado.

NEW DEGREE PROGRAM PROPOSALS

The chief academic officer with approval of the President shall develop policies, subject to Board approval, for the approval, modification and discontinuation of degree programs. These policies shall be consistent with the College's mission and conform to requirements of statute and the CCHE.

OUT-OF-STATE COURSES

The chief academic officer with approval of the President shall develop policies, subject to Board approval, for the offering of postsecondary courses at locations out of the state. These policies shall be consistent with the College's mission and conform to requirements of § 23-5-116 and the CCHE.

PROGRAM REVIEW

The chief academic officer, with approval of the President, shall develop policies, subject to Board approval, for review of degree programs. These policies shall be consistent with the College's mission and conform to requirements of statute and the CCHE.

PRINCIPLES AND DEFINITIONS

1. "Program" is defined as a CCHE approved program that leads to a degree or certificate; for example, B.A. in Economics, M.S. in Mathematics, and Certificate in Secretarial Science.
2. Each program must be reviewed at least once every seven years.
3. The Board shall review and act on the College's program reviews in the context of institutional academic and strategic plans.
4. The Board will monitor the implementation of program changes that result from the program review process through regular institutional reports.

PROCESS

By September 1 of each year annually the Board will submit to CCHE a list of programs to be reviewed in that academic year (required by CCHE policy). The College will request Board approval of the program list at the August Board meeting each year.

By September 1 of each year annually the Board will submit to the CCHE a list of programs or certificates that are likely to be proposed in the next five years and programs and certificates that may be discontinued within five years (required by CCHE policy). The College will request Board approval of these lists at the August Board meeting each year.

By March 15 of each year the Board will discuss and act on the program reviews of its institutions that were conducted during the previous academic year.

The College has the responsibility for designing its reviews; however, at a minimum the section of the CCHE program review policy titled: criteria for academic program review must be satisfied in compliance with CCHE policy.

BOARD OBJECTIVES

To assure that the College, given its role and mission and Colorado needs, evaluates its academic programs for quality and efficiency on a regular basis.

HONORARY DEGREES

Honorary degrees shall recognize meritorious contributions in education, governmental,

political, civic, and community affairs; industry, commerce and labor; and the arts, letters and sciences. An honorary degree is generally intended to indicate that the person receiving the degree is learned in a field of public service or has performed outstanding public service or has demonstrated proficiency in a field of endeavor without having completed courses of formal instruction or study or formal preparation or training. (See § 23-2-102(2), C.R.S.)

An honorary degree may be approved by the Board only after the President has submitted a recommendation, which contains sufficient justification for the Board to make an informed decision about awarding the degree.