

Scott A. Huettel, PhD
Jerry G. and Patricia Crawford Hubbard Professor
Department of Psychology and Neuroscience
Director, Duke Center for Interdisciplinary Decision Sciences

May 2, 2013

Professor Susan Lozier
Chair, Academic Council
Duke University

Dear Professor Lozier,

It is my pleasure to provide this summary of the activities of the Academic Programs Committee (APC) for the 2012-2013 academic year. Below this summary, I have listed the voting members of APC – all of whom I thank for their service on this time-intensive committee.

APC comprises faculty members from throughout the university – along with *ex officio* administrators and representatives of faculty committees – who advise the Provost on issues related to Duke's academic mission. Collectively, APC members perform several roles: reviewing departments and programs, offering guidance about ongoing and new initiatives, and providing a forum for discussion of issues that affect the broad academic mission of Duke.

Over the past year, APC completed the following department and program reviews, each of which was communicated to the Provost and ECAC via an APC resolution:

- **Art, Art History, and Visual Studies** (AAHVS): Review.
- **Asian and Middle Eastern Studies** (AMES): Review.
- **Cell Biology**. Review
- **Evolutionary Anthropology**. Review.
- **International Comparative Studies** (ICS): Recommended change to Program status.
- **Neurology**: Recommended transition to a Department within the School of Medicine.

Initiatives and related infrastructure that were discussed include **Bass Connections**, **Duke Forward**, the **Faculty Database**, the **Global Strategy** vision statement, the **Information Initiative at Duke** (iiD), the **Social Science Research Institute** (SSRI), and the **Strategic Investment Plan**.

APC reserves significant time for broad discussions of issues related to academic programs and Duke's faculty. In the past year, four topics each recurred across several APC meetings – all reflecting ongoing topics that have campus-wide impact. Each of these topics arose from the interests of the faculty on APC:

- **Use of Academic Analytics data in departmental reviews**. In the past year, departments and APC have been provided quantitative data that characterize the scholarly productivity of faculty members according to discipline-specific criteria. APC recognizes the potential value of such metrics – but also recognizes the limitations and challenges those data introduce. APC is developing a procedure for the transparent use of that data, so that they are in the proper context within the review process.

- **Online education.** APC discussed both not-for-credit and for-credit courses, including Duke's efforts to support faculty and the potential impact of those courses on academic programs at Duke.
- **Interdisciplinarity.** APC discussed the challenges introduced by interdisciplinarity initiatives, and how such initiatives can be made compatible with strength in core disciplines.
- **Duke-Kunshan University.** APC considered procedures for monitoring academic freedom at DKU and discussed potential DKU academic programs – and how those programs connect back to the Durham Campus.

Finally, APC worked with the Provost and the Chair of the Academic Council to revise the APC charge. The changes bring APC's formal charge in line with current practice, notably clarifying that only the faculty non-administrative members of APC (i.e., not *ex officio* members) may vote on its resolutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to report on our activities. The members of APC appreciate the opportunity to provide faculty input into the review and discussion of academic programs at Duke, and we welcome feedback from the members of Academic Council.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Huettel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Scott Huettel, Ph.D.

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Faculty Membership of the Academic Programs Committee (APC) for the 2012-2013 Academic Year

Ed Balleisen	History
Stuart Benjamin	School of Law
Emily Bernhardt	Biology
Rey Chow	Literature
Alexander Hartemink	Computer Science
V. Joseph Hotz	Economics
Scott Huettel	Psychology & Neuroscience
Stephen Jaffe	Music
Andrew Janiak	Philosophy
Deborah Jenson	Romance Studies
Nan Jokerst	Pratt School of Engineering
Carl Mela	Fuqua School of Business
Rich Mooney	Neurobiology
Berndt Mueller	Physics
Alexander Pfaff	Sanford School of Public Policy
Marty Smith	Nicholas School of the Environment
Stefan Zauscher	Pratt School of Engineering