FS P&BC Report to FS APC (05/22/2024) on Proposed new Undergrad Certificate in Healthcare Skills in A&S

Overview (taken from Proposal Overview from A&S on April 26, 2024):

To attract new students and enhance student's success in the healthcare marketplace, we propose a 9-credit, two to three semester undergraduate level Healthcare Skills certificate program that will provide early exposure to real-world clinical/work experiences. The certificate will attract students who already have an Associate's degree, and it will also serve as a retention tool for students who decide that they will not pursue professional schools (e.g., medicine, dentistry) but are still interested in healthcare. The focus of the program is on exposure to relevant experience and lab skills that will prepare students for the healthcare workforce marketplace. Courses will focus on understanding the healthcare marketplace, practicing basic lab skills needed for many healthcare laboratory jobs and providing experience in healthcare arenas. We will capitalize on our resources across UofL, at the HSC and leverage connections with UofL Health, Norton Pediatrics, the School of Public Health, School of Medicine, and the School of Dentistry to identify relevant opportunities for these students. Participating students can be from any major and may include non-degree-seeking students (as long as they meet pre-requisites) but the target audience includes students with associate degrees or those in their first two years of college and with an interest in healthcare professions.

Assessment:

The <u>revised</u> proposed budget spreadsheet now gives calculations, details and justifications for each budget item. The projected Unit Tuition-Share is appropriate at \$331 per credit-hour with assumption that a student will complete the 9 credit-hour certificate within 3 semesters. The revised budget projects 10 initial students will enroll in the first year and take three credits per semester for 60 total credits and \$19,980.00; in the second year, we have 15 new students enroll in fall, with the returning students, we have 25 students in the Fall and 15 in the Spring for 120 credits and \$39,960.00; in the third year, there will be 30 students in fall and 25 in spring for 165 credit hours and \$54945.00; the fourth year will have 35 and 30 students in fall and spring with 195 credit hours produced and \$64,935.00; in the fifth year students will complete 180 cr hr for \$59,940.00.

<u>Conclusion:</u> The proposed Certificate program projects to be financially self-supporting but does not project significant profitability. Likewise, the proposed program is very unlikely to become a "cost center" to A&S or to the University. P&BC recommends approval of the modified budget proposal as a reasonable fiscal endeavor.

Pat Patrick D. Harris, PhD Chair of the FS Planning & Budget Committee

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