

**Resolution No. 23-33***Approval of Academic Program Review  
for AY 2022-2023*

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Trustees of Governors State University (the “Board” and “University,” respectively) was created on January 1, 1996, by Public Act 89-4 to operate, manage, control, and maintain the University in accordance with the rights, powers, and duties vested by law in the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board is comprised of eight members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor of Illinois with the advice and consent of the Senate, and one of whom is a University student selected by student peers; and

**WHEREAS**, The Board is empowered to operate, manage, control, and maintain the University and prescribe the courses of study to be followed pursuant to Sections 15-10 and 15-45 of the Illinois Governors State University Law, 110 ILCS 670/15-1 *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Board Regulation III(C)(5), “the President shall conduct a review of each of the academic programs offered at the university and shall submit for Board approval recommendations on the status of each academic program” (i.e., the “Program Review”); and

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Section 7 of the Illinois Board of Higher Education Act, 110 ILCS 205/1 *et seq.*, the University shall submit the Program Review to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (“IBHE”) on an annual basis:

The Board of Higher Education is authorized to review periodically all existing programs of instruction, research, and public service at the State universities and colleges and to advise the appropriate board of control if the contribution of each program is not educationally and economically justified. Each State university shall report annually to the Board on programs of instruction, research, or public service that have been terminated, dissolved, reduced, or consolidated by the university.

Each State university shall also report to the Board all programs of instruction, research, and public service that exhibit a trend of low performance in enrollments, degree completions, and high expense per degree.

and

**WHEREAS**, President Green recommends the approval of the Program Review described in Exhibit A hereto and submission of the Program Review to the IBHE; and

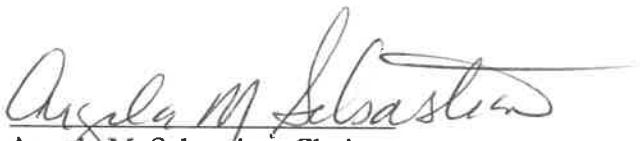
**WHEREAS**, The Board believes approval of the Program Review and submission to the IBHE is in the best interests of the University.

Now, therefore, it is:

*Resolved*, that the Board approves the Program Review and authorizes the University to submit the Program Review as presented to the IBHE in a timely manner.

*Resolved*, that the Board directs the University to take all reasonable and necessary steps to otherwise effectuate this Resolution.

*Approved June 12, 2023*

  
**Angela M. Sebastian, Chair**  
**Board of Trustees**

# **Summary Report Academic Program Review 2022-2023**

Committee Results of Academic Program Review

Dr. Robert A. Stanley  
6-1-2023

### **Executive Summary.**

The process of academic program review is completed annually by the Academic Program Review Committee (APRC), which is a sub-committee of faculty senate. In conjunction with the Office of the Provost and the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE), the university ensures academic integrity and quality by engaging academic units in a process of quality improvement.

Secondarily, the process of academic program review is a reassurance that Governors State University (GSU) complies with standards set by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) and the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Furthermore, "IBHE is authorized to review, periodically, all existing programs of instruction, research and public service at the State universities and colleges and to advise the appropriate board of control if the contribution of each program is not educationally and economically justified" (110 ILCS 205/7).

As part of the process, the Board of Trustees of Governors State University must review and approve a summary report of the recommendations offered by the APRC to the Office of the Provost regarding the standings of each program under review. Following the review of APRC, the committee offers one of three recommendations: 1) the program is in Good Standing. where good standing is determined by the report's narrative; 2) the program is flagged for Priority Review; or 3) the program is suspended – Enrollment Suspension.

### **Summary of Results**

During the 2022- 2023 academic year, APRC reviewed six graduate programs, which also included a doctoral degree program. The undergraduate programs reviewed included three Bachelor of Science (BS) programs and a Bachelor of Art (BA) program. One certificate program was also reviewed. All the above programs are on a five-year cyclical review cycle, see table 1.2.

Two undergraduate programs that were reviewed are on a three-year priority review, table 2.1. This level of review is based on standards outlined by IBHE. In summary, all programs reviewed were recommended in Good Standing (see page five of this report for more details).

Also, contained within this report are the guidelines and components by which academic programs are required to draft their individual self-study for the purposes of academic program review and quality improvement.

### **Action**

Following a review and approval of the Summary Report of Academic Programs Reviewed by the Board of Trustees of Governors State University, a report will be forwarded to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) for final approval.

## I. Introduction.

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the work completed by academic units that are scheduled for drafting a comprehensive self-study in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the APRC, the Office of the Provost and the IBHE.

The academic program review process is established to ensure quality of existing academic programs at GSU. The programs use both qualitative and quantitative data to fashion their self-study. The review process demonstrates that the university follows the guidelines promulgated by IBHE. Furthermore, the review process serves as a platform by which academic programs evaluate program quality, program productivity and program planning to determine program effectiveness at GSU matched with the facilitation of academic budgeting and planning.

## II. Background.

The APRC is an executive committee of the Faculty Senate. This committee evaluates programs based on a 3- or 5-year cycle. All programs at GSU participate in this practice of quality assurance. Programs that receive national accreditation are required to submit a summary report detailing the findings of their accrediting agency's report. Therefore, these programs are not required to complete the traditional program review as outlined within this report. Programs without a national accrediting body are required to undergo the university's established process including a review by an external reviewer who is responsible for providing feedback, and a summary report of findings as well as recommendations to the program. As part of the review process, programs *flagged for review* must address costs and any other extenuating circumstances.

Below is an outline of the cycles of review as offered by IBHE.

### A three-year review cycle.

New programs that received degree approval from the IBHE. They are placed on a 3-year cycle of reporting. This report must outline a summary of accomplishments and an enrollment report detailing trend data over a three-year period. Two years after that initial report, those programs report on their plans through the five-year cyclical review report.

### A five-year review cycle.

Established programs are placed on a 4- or 5-year review cycle (the variation allows for programs to adjust their review schedule based on national accreditation or state accreditation needs).

### A priority review—flagged program.

A program flagged for priority review per IBHE guidelines in the previous year undergoes a priority review in the following fall term.

## III. Standards and Recommendations for Review.

Following the evaluation of a program, APRC provides the following recommendations to the Provost on each program's respective standing.

- **Good Standing:**  
Good standing is determined by the report's narrative. Also, good standing with minor changes indicates the program should provide clarification on a minimum of less than two minor points. such as clarification of a data point or additional clarification of an area identified within the report by the academic program.

- **Flag for Further Review:**  
Programs flagged for further review are required to act on the recommendation of the committee, meet with the APRC chair and Provost (and/or designee) to discuss the program response and determine action steps for remediation.
- **Suspension:**  
Programs recommended for suspension are required to follow the recommendations set forth by the Office of the Provost. When a decision is made to close a program, the Provost (and/or designee) will meet with program faculty members to establish a plan to meet the needs of existing students in the program. Additionally, IBHE is informed of the decision through the Annual Review process.

#### IV. **Components of an Academic Program Review.**

The program review report consists of the following:

- A description and analysis of any major changes in the program
- Major findings
- Recommendations for program improvement
- A description of actions taken based on last program review
- A description of actions taken while performing the current review
- Career and employment trends of students within the program
- Alumni data regarding employment of students after graduation
- An analysis of program's data (table 1.2 below)

**Table 1.1 Example of Enrollment Data Table (OIRE provides data to programs)**

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	6 Year Avg.
<b>Number of Enrolled Majors (Fall)</b>							
<b>Fall SCH</b>							
<b>Applicants</b>							
<b>Admissions</b>							
<b>Ratio Full Time Faculty: Students</b>							Enter Average of last 3 years
<b>Degrees awarded</b>							
<b>Average age</b>							
<b>GSU Costs</b>							
<b>Statewide avg. costs</b>							

- V. The table below outlines the various types of reviews as well as the programs that were under review for this academic year 2022-2023.

**Table 1.2**  
This table outlines programs that were scheduled for a 5-year cyclical review.

2022-2023 Cyclical Review		
Undergraduate Programs	Graduate Programs	Certificates
Biology, BS	Human Resource Management, MS	Addictions Screening, Assessment, and Referral, Certificate
Computer Science, BS	Political and Justice Studies MA	
Health Informatics, BS	Computer Science, MS	
Psychology, BA	Health Informatics, MA	
	School Psychology, E.Ds.	
	Clinical Psychology, MA	
	Addictions Studies, MHS	

**Table 2.1**  
Identified within this table are the programs that underwent either cyclical, 3-Year, or Priority Review

2022-2023 Cyclical Review		
Undergraduate Programs	Graduate Programs	Certificates
Information Technology, BS		
Economics, BA		

Table 3.1

## Summary of academic programs standings following a review by APRC

<b>Academic Program Review</b>			
Updated: 05/25/2023 11:41 AM			
Human Resource Management, MS	COB	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Economics, BA	COB	Approved with Minor Changes	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Political and Justice Studies MA	CAS	Approved with Minor Changes	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Biology, BS	CAS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Computer Science, MS	CAS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Computer Science, BS	CAS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Health Informatics, BS	CHHS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Health Informatics, MA	CHHS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Information Technology, BS	CAS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
School Psychology, E.Ds.	COE	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Psychology, BA	COE	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Clinical Psychology, MA	COE	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Addictions Screening, Assessment, and Referral, Certificate	CHHS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend
Addictions Studies, MHS	CHHS	Approved with minor change	Program Standing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Standing <input type="checkbox"/> Flagged for Priority Review <input type="checkbox"/> Program Enrollment Suspend