



Good Morning Susan,

As Accreditation Liaison Officer, I am formally notifying the Commission of a new Associate of Arts Degree in Dance Studies at Folsom Lake College, which was recently approved by the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

Folsom Lake College (FLC) has developed and received state approval for its new Associate of Arts Degree in Dance Studies. The purpose of this letter is to communicate to the Commission a description of a proposed change, the need for that change, and its anticipated effects. In addition, the college seeks a determination from the Commission that the proposed change is not substantive (4.2.4) as twenty-four (24) of the twenty-six (26) required and elective courses contained in the degree program were previously approved and cataloged. The program offers students the opportunity to develop a breadth of multi-disciplinary abilities, skills, and knowledge. The program provides students with an exploration of world dance history, pedagogy, injury prevention and technical skills in classical and contemporary styles including but not limited to ballet, jazz, modern, contemporary, hip-hop, and ethnic/folk forms. Seven (7) of the eight (8) required program courses already exist as cataloged courses at the college; only DANCE 380-World Dance History was developed to support the new AA Dance Studies Degree. Of the sixteen (16) elective course choices, only one new elective course was developed (DANCE 498-Work Experience) to support the degree. In this instance, DANCE 498 used an existing course template to create the only new 'WEXP' designator for Work Experience in its course management system.

Prior to, and throughout the development of the AA degree, Kinesiology, Health, and Athletics (KHA) department faculty, staff, and management collaborated on the planning process, including developing curriculum approval, district board approval, development of student materials, outreach materials, and input from secondary school faculty and selected workforce providers. While not required, the program curriculum was assessed and evaluated in spring 2010 and spring 2011 by the department's advisory board with collaboration from other sister college faculty in the Los Rios Community College District. At present, the degree program is sited at the FLC main campus in Folsom (Folsom, CA), and has sufficient tenured and eligible adjunct faculty to support a two-year semester course sequence.

Regarding the program's need, the degree is in direct response to student interest and is designed using existing classes to enhance students' understanding of the career options in Dance Studies. The degree is buttressed by comprehensive, academic rigorous classes that sharpen student leadership and critical thinking skills in preparation for transfer and/or the workplace. Careers include, performing, teaching, teacher training, choreography, dance studio business ownership, pedagogy, dance movement therapy and non-profit arts management.

The program will benefit students interested in careers in Dance Studies or transfer to university-based Dance Studies program, as well as existing workers who are interested in career advancement through continuing education. The degree program is also intended to benefit local agencies as they attempt to fill replacement positions during the next decade.

Please let me know if this request meets all the necessary elements required for formal notification, and if the request meets the approval of the Commission.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David A. Newnham". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "D" and a cursive "A" and "N".

Dr. David A. Newnham
Vice-President, Instruction - ALO
Folsom Lake College
916.608.6899