Kansas State University’s Program Review Year 2021
Institutional Overview

The mission of Kansas State University (K-State) is to foster excellence in teaching, research and service that develop a highly skilled and educated citizenry necessary to advancing the well-being of Kansas, the nation and the international community. The university embraces diversity, encourages engagement and is committed to the discovery of knowledge, the education of undergraduate and graduate students, and improvement in the quality of life and standard of living of those we serve.

Review of selected degree programs each year helps assure that the university continues to offer rigorous and relevant curricula to meet the needs of students, faculty, the state of Kansas, and the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR). Such reviews also ensure that the institution is heeding to its mission and strategic goals. For the 2020 cycle, K-State reviewed a total of 44 degree programs in the following disciplinary areas:

- **College of Agriculture** - Agricultural Business; Agricultural Economics; Agricultural Communications And Journalism; Agricultural Education And Communication; Agricultural Education
- **College of Education** –Curriculum And Instruction; Educational Leadership; Special Education; Counseling And Student Development; Academic Advising; Adult Learning And Leadership; Elementary Education & Master of Arts in Teaching; Secondary Education And Teaching.
- **College of Health and Human Sciences** – Human Ecology; Dietetics; Human Development And Family Science; Early Childhood Education; Apparel And Textiles; Gerontology; Human Nutrition; Kinesiology; Interior Design; Communication Sciences And Disorders; Athletic Training; Dietetics; Personal Financial Planning; Hospitality Management.
- **College of Veterinary Medicine** - Public Health

What follows provides significant highlights of each program and proposed recommendations for the degree programs that did not meet the minimum criteria.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE REVIEW PROCESS**

The process began with each program examining its assessment of student learning. The Office of Assessment reviewed all reports with the Graduate School Assessment and Review committee additionally reviewing graduate programs’ reports on the assessment of student learning. Reviewers provided feedback and recommendations for improvement. Each program examined the statistical data and drafted a summary report resulting from their program’s self-review including information on: (1) Centrality of the program to fulfilling the mission and the role of the institution; (2) The quality of the program as assessed by the strengths, productivity, and qualifications of the faculty; (3) The quality of the program as assessed by its curriculum and impact on students; (4) Demonstrated student need and employer demand for the program; (5) The service the program provides to the discipline, the university, and beyond; and (6) The program’s cost-effectiveness. In consultation with the College Dean’s Office and/or the respective College or Program Committee on Planning, each department finalized the Program Review Report for its academic programs (by CIP code) as required by KBOR. The college dean then forwarded the reports to the Office of Assessment for review and comment. If necessary, the Office of Assessment returned the reports with suggested revisions to the college dean, which were returned with revisions for final approval. Summaries for all programs are attached. Where possible, the reports for degree programs within a given department were combined into a singular narrative.

**SUMMARY OF THE PROGRAMS REVIEWED**

Of the 44 degree programs reviewed, there are eight doctorates, eighteen masters, and eighteen bachelor’s degrees. Overall, the degree programs are in strong and viable academic disciplines. Each department and its academic programs provide opportunities for the advancement of education, research, and service for the state of Kansas, the nation, and the world.

**Academic Advising: CIP code - 13.1199**

A major achievement of the program is having 700 graduates with an M.S. in Academic Advising since the inception of the program in 2008. Related to this, the five-year average of degrees is 66.2 graduates and the five-year major average is 167.8 students. The collaboration with NACADA: The Global Community for Academic Advising continues to benefit the program, our students, our faculty, and the profession. Another achievement related to the M.S. in Academic Advising
is the approval of the doctoral program in Leadership in Academic Advising, a subplan of the Ph.D. in Counseling and Student Development. The initial cohort of the program began in Summer 2020. This program will benefit the master’s program and the profession. Continue

**Adult Learning and Leadership: CIP code - 13.1201**
The five-year averages for enrollments were 108.2 for the master programs and 43.8 for the doctorate, with 68.6 masters graduates and 4.8 in the doctoral programs. Faculty served as editors for the two premier journals in the field. The creation of new distance learning options for the Ed.D/Ph.D. in ALL, and start-up and integration of the new enrollment-intensive community college doctoral emphasis has been a major accomplishment. Growth in enrollments in the ALL degree programs (M.S., Ed.D. & Ph.D.) indicate strong external demand. KSU is one of only three Big 12 universities having adult learning graduate programs of this intensity. KBOR approval for name from Adult, Occupational and Continuing Education to Adult Learning and Leadership in 2017. Continue

**Agricultural Business: CIP code - 01.0101**
**Agricultural Economics: CIP code - 01.0103**
The undergraduate programs offer a variety of options and tracks from which students can choose. The graduate program in Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University is unique as no other Regents or private institutions in Kansas offers graduate programs in agricultural economics. Within the Big-12 peer group, five institutions offer graduate programs (M.S. and Ph.D.) in agricultural economics. The Masters of Agribusiness (MAB) program is unique in Kansas and there is only one similar graduate level executive program in the United States focused on the business and economics of the food and agribusiness sector.

**Agricultural Communications and Journalism: CIP code - 01.0802**
Since the last review, the department has had many accomplishments as a result of the quality of our students and resources. The department club, Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, was nationally recognized by the national association as Chapter of the Year in 2018 and 2019. The Agriculturist Magazine, produced by agricultural communications students in the program, has received at least 4 national awards over the past 5 years. New undergraduates in fall 2020 were 30 students, which is more than double the average of the three previous years.

**Agricultural Education: CIP code - 13.1301**
Major Achievements include increase in enrollment and graduation numbers; 100% placement rate of graduates; reduction of the required degree program credit hours from 130 to 120; creation and/or modification of eight courses; development of undergraduate research program; initiation of faculty-led study abroad experience; and $77,700 targeted to undergraduate student support from competitive grant funds in the last 5 years.

**Agricultural Education and Communication: CIP code - 01.0899**
Helping each faculty member develop the capacity to meet the needs of both student groups is a priority. Professional development and increased communication from the graduate coordinator are planned to support graduate faculty. In addition, an increased population of on-campus graduate students on assistantship will provide support for the undergraduate programs, allowing faculty members more flexibility to work with graduate students.

**Apparel And Textiles: CIP code - 19.0901**
In 2017, the program opened an updated maker space for textiles products. They converted from technology used at home to technology used in industry. This has been important to the quality of education the fashion design student receive. They have an invested and active Fashion Studies Professional Advisory Board (FSPAB), which sponsors two annual events (symposium and a fashion-specific employment and networking event) for students, alumni, our professional partners, and prospective students. The program maintains robust relationships with alumni who are mentors to our students, guest lectures, field trips, and presentations of their professional practice. The alumni network provides professional development and advancement opportunities for all students and alumni.

**Athletic Training: CIP code - 51.0913**
The graduates are placed in good positions in a variety of health related organizations. The faculty have applied for and received significant levels of extramural funding. The program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The CAATE requirements are moving toward requiring a Master degree, so our
transition has shifted toward that program as well. To best prepare undergraduates, the BS has shifted focus to a BS in Athletic Training and Rehabilitation Services.

**Communication Sciences and Disorders: CIP code - 51.0201**

Seventy-five to 85% of the CSD students are accepted to graduate programs, required for certification and practice, and have been successful in completing their graduate education. Several of the CSD undergraduate students have participated in research projects and have presented at state and national conferences. In addition, the program has maintained ASHA accreditation for the past 40 years. The results from our most recent site visit (2016) demonstrated that the Communication Sciences and Disorders program is meeting the educational needs of our students.

**Counseling And Student Development: CIP code - 13.1101**

Major achievements in the College Student Development program during the current review cycle include sustained enrollments in the program, the review and slight revisions to the curriculum that were made in 2014-2015, and the hiring of some new, qualified adjunct faculty to teach some of the coursework in the program. Major achievements in the Ph.D. in Student Affairs in Higher Education program during the current review cycle include sustained enrollments in the program, the review and slight revisions to the curriculum that were made in 2015-2016, and the revision of the doctoral preliminary exam structure and process that was made in 2019. The program review in 2015-2016 resulted in some new coursework being added (i.e., Scholarly Orientation to Graduate Studies; an additional research elective). Furthermore, the faculty redesigned the preliminary examination process and structure in 2019 to create the opportunity to better assess the student learning outcomes and to better prepare students for the dissertation phase of their doctoral program.

**Curriculum & Instruction – Undergraduate programs**

**Elementary Education: CIP code - 13.1202**

**Secondary Education and Teaching: CIP code - 13.1205**

Teacher licensure programs are fully accredited with the Kansas Department of Education and and units are accredited by the National Council on Accreditation of Teacher Education. The faculty obtain grants that provide service to local and broader communities, including the Teacher Quality Grant, K-STEP UP, and the Troops to Teachers program. These programs target previously underserved populations, making K-State’s quality teacher preparation available to wider audiences. K-STEP UP is a partnership with public school districts and community colleges through an online version of our elementary education degree track. Both of these sponsored programs demonstrate responsiveness to the larger professional need for more teachers and a more diverse P-12 teaching force.

**Curriculum And Instruction: - Graduate programs**

**CIP code - 13.0301**

A major achievement since the last review was reconceptualizing and reinvigorating our Ed.D. program. It had minimal enrollment for several years and is growing into a vital program in demand. Enrollment increased from one in 2017, to 16 in 2018, 28 in 2019, and 24 in 2020. The Ed.D. has resulted in new and rigorous course offerings offered by our faculty. Additionally, offering assistantships to Ed.D. students to mentor students in the M.A.T. program makes it a more financially attractive option for them to pursue a doctoral degree. The Ph.D. program has been continuously reviewed and revised as noted previously. Time to degree completion has improved with more regular course offerings, our Ed.D. new course offerings, and the addition of an historical research methods in education course, which supports the increased research course requirement.

**Dietetics Undergraduate Program: CIP code - 51.3101**

Major Achievements include: Both the didactic program (DPD) and coordinated program (CP) completed an accreditation site visit in 2018-19 and were notified in August 2019 of continued accreditation status through 2027. The next site visit will be fall 2026. Graduates of the DPD have a match rate to dietetic internships of 84% as compared to the 65% national rate, and 97% of internship directors were satisfied with DPD student preparation for supervised practice. Graduates of both the DPD and CP do well on the national RDN registration exam: 5-year Pass Rate for DPD is 95%; 5-year Pass Rate for CP is 96% and CP graduates, 94% are employed within 12-months; and 80% of employers and 97% of graduates reported adequate preparation for entry-level practice.

**Dietetics Graduate Program: CIP code - 19.0501**

Our department made visionary decisions since the last review. 1) We moved one of our programs to be offered as a degree completion program through Global Campus. 2) We invested in assigning faculty to Olathe to better serve our
graduate students by providing them more food and consumer industry opportunities in Kansas City than the region around the Manhattan campus. These decisions helped us maintain quality programs, evidenced by, alumni surveys, and employment and postgraduate data; and, to be one of the few departments at Kansas State University to experience >20% enrollment growth over the past two years.

**Early Childhood Education: CIP code - 19.0706**
The baccalaureate pre-service early childhood education program is offered on campus and online and is fully approved by KSDE and accredited by NCATE. The distance degree early childhood education program was recognized as #1 in 2019 by collegechoice.net. K-State Global Campus has done a fine job marketing the distance program across the United States and internationally. Student enrollment in the degree is stable while enrollment in the two new minors is increasing each semester. Advisors in the Applied Human Sciences department and in the College of Education, in particular, appreciate the importance of these minors and have been recommending them to their students.

**Educational Leadership: CIP code - 13.0401**
Major achievements during the current review cycle included significant growth in enrollment due to the P-12 M.S. Leadership Academy model and creation of new high-level partnerships for P-12 doctoral collaboration with policy organizations such as the Kansas State Department of Education resulting in senior KSDE leaders earning K-State doctoral degrees. These improvements are the result of constantly scanning the horizon for trends and venues for delivery and impact, as well as institutional expectation for continuous program review, intellectual and fiscal justification, and modification for effectiveness and efficiency’s sake. All this is overlain by rigorous multiple internal and external reviews and accreditations, including regent review, graduate school review, national accreditations including NCATE nd other professional association reviews.

**Gerontology: CIP code - 30.1101**
Three faculty members earned awards in the past five years. The faculty have been recognized for many awards, including the director being named a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America, recognized as a Distinguished Faculty by the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education, and earned a Dayton Rothrock Award for Exceptional Teaching and the Myers-Alford Outstanding Teaching Award. The past year showed growth in the BS secondary major primarily because of the addition of the minor in Gerontology (e.g., 30 new students in one semester). The MS is seeing increased interest with applications. Our research and outreach have been in the area of quality improvement (especially as it relates to person-centered care) for nursing homes--PEAK. The faculty has contracts of about $300,000 yearly from the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services for nearly 20 years. Our research has shown significant improvements for residents in satisfaction as well as clinical improvements including reduced depression and pressure ulcers. Our work has been cited as a best practice for dealing with COVID-19 in retirement communities and nursing homes.

**Hospitality Management: CIP code - 52.0901**
As part of the effort to increase enrollment, the department developed a bachelor’s degree completion program, which is offered through the Olathe campus. This program seeks to attract individuals who are working in the hospitality industry in the greater Kansas City metro-area who need to complete a BS degree in order to advance in their career or those students who are completing an associate’s degree at any of the community college programs in hospitality management in the Kansas City area. With the master’s degree, graduate faculty aim to increase the number of students enrolled in the program and expect that the roll-out of the online master’s degree will help achieve this goal. Many prospective students for this program are current industry professionals who are unable to leave their current employer and move to Manhattan, KS. Thus, our online master’s program launched in fall 2020, and faculty offered virtual information sessions and recruitment events.

**Human Development and Family Science: CIP code - 19.0701**
We have an exceptionally high pass rate for the specializations that require a national examination (100% in CFT and CSD and 96% in ECE) and our students are also highly successful in finding employment within their area of specialization upon graduation (100% of M.S. and 94.1% of B.S. in HDFS graduates are employed or furthering their education). FSHS faculty members are recognized for their national and international prominence as scholars and have been successful in obtaining large competitively funded external research grants. Many of our Master’s students are actively engaged in research and have presented their work at state and national conferences; a few have had their research published.
Human Ecology: CIP code - 19.0101
Our students at the BS and PhD level have been recognized by the College, Graduate School, and University; made numerous presentations at professional meetings; authored or co-authored multiple peer-reviewed papers in top-tiered journals; earned top honors at the National level; and been very successful in securing prestigious positions upon graduation. In addition to our students’ achievements, we established an annual review of progress in order to monitor how well our PhD students are meeting program expectations and to facilitate timely degree completion. We also revised our process for assessing SLOs at the BS and PhD. Faculty believed the new assessment system was better at assessing program outcomes because it assessed mastery at the conclusion of the program rather than measuring competence in a series of steps or courses across program.

Human Nutrition: CIP code - 30.1901
The program moved the emphasis in Nutrition and Health to be a degree completion program through Global Campus. They developed two new undergraduate certificates in Community Health and Health Coaching. The program also developed a Minor in Nutrition. The program discontinued the emphasis area Nutrition and Kinesiology in the bachelor’s program and the Public Health Nutrition degree and developed a new degree in Sports Nutrition. These decisions helped us maintain quality programs, evidenced by senior surveys, alumni surveys, employment and postgraduate data. We are one of the few departments at K-State to show >20% enrollment growth over the past two years.

Interior Design: CIP code - 50.0408
Consistent hallmarks of the interior design program are excellent student and faculty as evidenced in multiple awards, ranking in the top 10 (of more than 300) nationally, job placement and professional advancement of our graduates, and consistent excellence in CIDA re-accreditation. We have an invested and active Interior Design Professional Advisory Board (IDPAB), which sponsors an annual event for students, alumni, our professional partners, and prospective students. We maintain robust relationships with alumni who are mentors to our students, assist us in teaching through critique, guest lectures, field trips, and presentations of their professional practice. Our alumni network provides professional development and advancement opportunities for all students and alumni.

Kinesiology: CIP code - 26.0908
The department has experienced several significant achievements and accomplishments since the last review. These include: obtaining over $5 million in direct grant support, 3 faculty receiving University Distinguished Professor designation, initiation of a doctoral program under the umbrella of the CHHS, hiring 5 new graduate faculty (three in physiology, 2 in exercise behavioral science/public health physical activity), graduating an average of 135 students/year over the past 5 years, and placing over 80% of our graduate students in kinesiology-related professions.

Personal Financial Planning: CIP code - 52.0804
In addition to substantial growth in enrollment in the B.S. and M.S. programs, student competition teams regularly place in the top three in national competitions. PFP faculty members are regularly recognized nationally as scholars and industry leaders, with prominent leadership roles in both professional and academic associations. Our Ph.D. students are highly sought after due to their training and high research output prior to graduation. We have also shown considerable improvement in the number of B.S. students that take the CFP® exam in the first year after graduation, as well as the pass rates for graduates.

Public Health: CIP code - 51.2201
Achievements include: Full reaccreditation from CEPH for 7 years (through December 21, 2026); student graduation rate of over 70%; student employment/additional education rate of over 90%; increased the diversity of faculty in the interdisciplinary program; and established and maintained relationships with state and local health departments and professionals.

Special Education: CIP code - 13.1001
The Special Education program at Kansas State University has faced significant challenges in the past few years. First, the majority of other Special Education programs are totally online. K-State has had a few online or hybrid courses but the program could in no way be considered to be online. Second, our program has probably been the most comprehensive program within the state (our pass rate on the required ETS Praxis II examination is nearly 100%) but that has come at the cost of requiring more credit hours than other programs.