

Report to the Dean & Faculty Senate: Certificate, Drafting

Matthew D. Mingus
Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Chair

The University of New Mexico – Gallup’s Certificate program in Drafting was recently reviewed at the 23 October 2015 meeting of the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee. In a majority decision, and after carefully examining the material submitted by the Division of Business & Applied Technology, **the Committee decided not to approve the submitted program review and recommends that the Certificate program in Drafting be discontinued.**

During our meeting, several committee members commented on the inadequate condition of the submitted program review. Documents 1 and 2, in particular, were found to be seriously flawed. In the future, the Committee hopes that Division Chairs will take this process seriously enough to provide us with (and appropriately organize) all of the information requested in the “Program Review Instrument”. For more detailed information concerning the Committee’s evaluation of the submitted materials, please contact the Dean’s office and request a summary of our compiled rubric sheets regarding this program.

There was serious concern among committee members about the transferability and employability of students currently enrolled in the Drafting program. As noted in the Dean’s recommendation, the current certificate program fails to seamlessly transition students from our campus to a bachelor’s program on main campus. In fact, committee members were troubled by this certificate program’s failure to even transition students into one of our own associate’s degrees. We recognize that, often, the purpose of a certificate program is to provide students with employment and not necessarily a track toward another degree. However, there was little in the submitted program review that suggested students will quickly find jobs after graduation. Among the documents submitted to the committee, for example, were “Occupational Outlook” reports which characterized entry-level positions in drafting as requiring an associate’s degree.

While the Committee believes that our current drafting course offerings are important, and while the Committee also recognizes the potential value of certificate programs, we are not convinced that the Certificate in Drafting – in its current form – adds to the value of our institution or meets the needs of our students. Therefore, we recommend an immediate “teach out” of the program.

Matthew D. Mingus
Assistant Professor of History
Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Chair