

**3.4.10** The institution places primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty. **(Responsibility for curriculum)**

### Judgment of Compliance

Compliance

### Narrative

The faculty is primarily responsible for the quality, content and effectiveness of the institution's curriculum as documented in the Faculty Handbook by the following statement:

"A strong tradition of shared governance is essential to the excellence of any institution of higher learning. Therefore, the purpose of the Faculty Senate is to ensure that the institution's faculty has the means to give effective advice with respect to the question of academic policy and institutional governance with particular emphasis upon the highest quality in matters of curricula, degree requirements, instructional standards, and grading criteria, and that the appropriate means of giving such advice is through an elected faculty senate. As such, the Senate shall execute the requests of the General University Faculty and make recommendations to that body about those matters, which must be voted on directly by the General University Faculty." [1]

Additional evidence of faculty responsibility for content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum is found in minutes from meetings of the (a) Curriculum Review Committees (CRCs) of various departments within the colleges [2]; (b) Graduate Program Review Committee [3], (c) the university-wide Curriculum and New Programs Committee [4] and (d) the Faculty Senate [5] All academic curricula changes must proceed through these channels for approval and all committee members are faculty member which ensures faculty input in all decisions regarding academic quality, content, and effectiveness.

Each major in a degree program has an assigned faculty member serving as program coordinator (described in Comprehensive Standard 3.4.11). These coordinators are responsible for curriculum development and review and must hold a terminal degree in the discipline. In those degree programs for which the institution does not identify a major, this requirement applies to a curricular area or concentration. Additionally, program coordinators are responsible for Academic Program Review, a state-mandated process that requires review of academic program quality, productivity, and viability at least once every five year as described in Core Requirement 2.5.

### Supporting Documentation

- [1] [Faculty Role, Faculty Handbook pages 25-26](#)
- [2] [Departmental Reviews, Departmental Minutes, page 2](#)
- [3] [Minutes, Graduate Council](#)
- [4] [Minutes, Curriculum and New Programs Standing Committee](#)
- [5] [Minutes, Faculty Senate](#)