

GBC Academic Standards Committee

September 23, 2016

Faculty Senate Report

Members:

Mike Whitehead, Chair

Wendy Charlebois

Barbara Conton

Gary Chidester

Diane Wrightman

Reme Huttman

Brian Zeiszler

Items

ITT Tech Proposal

GBC could assist some of these abandoned students with a small pilot in the aligned programs with the assistance of a willing department. Courses would start in the second 8 weeks of the Fall semester to capture the ITT students (quickly)

Approved by majority vote

Full proposal:

Many of you have read about ITT Tech closing 137 colleges and stranding 45,000 students mid-degree. They had a physical presence in both Reno and Las Vegas plus a multiple campus and online presence across the nation. ITT Tech had a financial aid audit like ours last Spring, and their ability to offer financial aid was pulled. More than 60% of their students were financial aid. Their national accreditation subsequently was revoked, leading to their decision to close all operations.

In reviewing program requirements and syllabi for many of their courses, we found some of our online degrees align significantly with ITT Tech's offerings. Deeper investigations found the syllabi, rigor, books and requirements of the courses were also closely aligned to GBC courses.

We would like to see if GBC could assist some of these abandoned students with a small pilot in the aligned programs with the assistance of a willing department. Courses would start in the second 8 weeks of the Fall semester to capture the ITT students quickly.

We would like to consider a pilot in the following online degree offerings:

Associate of Applied Science: General Business

Associate of Applied Science: Accounting

Associate of Applied Science: Entrepreneurship

---The above degrees will prepare the student to continue on to one of the online Bachelor of Applied Science degrees at Great Basin College.

As per current GBC code, ITT Tech coursework could be eligible for non-traditional credit (up to 15 credits) and possible challenge credits (up to 30 credits), provided a grade of C or better was earned.

The business department faculty advisors have agreed to individually review transcripts and course challenge work. Students must provide at least 3 artifacts of their work (case studies, papers, business plans, final projects, etc.) for each course they would like to challenge. Students would also be required to take a math and English placement exam.

Historically, every single request for non-traditional credit has been brought to academic standards. Our hope is that after hearing the details of the Business Department's rigorous evaluation process, the committee will agree for this pilot to allow the business department to make determinations as transcripts and course evidence arrive without bringing each individual course to academic standards.

Dr. Curtis, Lynn Mahlberg and the Deans support this initiative. Time is of the essence, as the second 8 week courses, starts very soon.