

Office of **Faculty Senate** 

Date: February 2nd, 2019

TO: WSU Faculty Senate

FROM: Faculty Senate Steering Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Greg Crouch, Faculty senate chair-elect

Ley Crowk

SUBJECT: Degree approval pathway to include "fast track" option.

WSU's Office of the Provost has requested that Faculty Senate modify current practices to allow expediting certain program and degree changes. Senate Steering spent several months collaborating with provost's office, the registrar, and associated Senate committee chairs to draft the suggested modifications. Current policies are found here: https://provost.wsu.edu/procedures/degree-approval/.

Suggested modifications to the existing process are listed below. Please note:

1) Units proposing degree changes have budgetary control. To this end, Senate Budget Committee Chair Greg Rose, in consultation with WSU's VP for Finance and Administration, agreed that certain degree changes rightly should bypass senate budget review. For example, the process of extending an existing degree to another campus. These changes are consistent with the guidelines from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

2) These changes also better accommodate the reduced number of meetings with the Board of Regents, who under the existing rules, must approve all changes, no matter how minor. The proposed changes outlined below cede fast track eligible changes to the local authority.

3) Senate would assure that all stakeholders have been consulted and are in agreement with any degree changes. Communication of such proposals would officially include campus faculty organizations (Resident Faculty Organization and Council of Faculty Representatives) in addition to campuses' Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs.

4) If degree changes are deemed inappropriate to fast track, they will default to the longer review process. Units seeking fast track changes will consult with the provost's office during the NOI phase to vet the appropriateness of the request, but if a change is rerouted to the standard review prose, it may add additional time to the process.

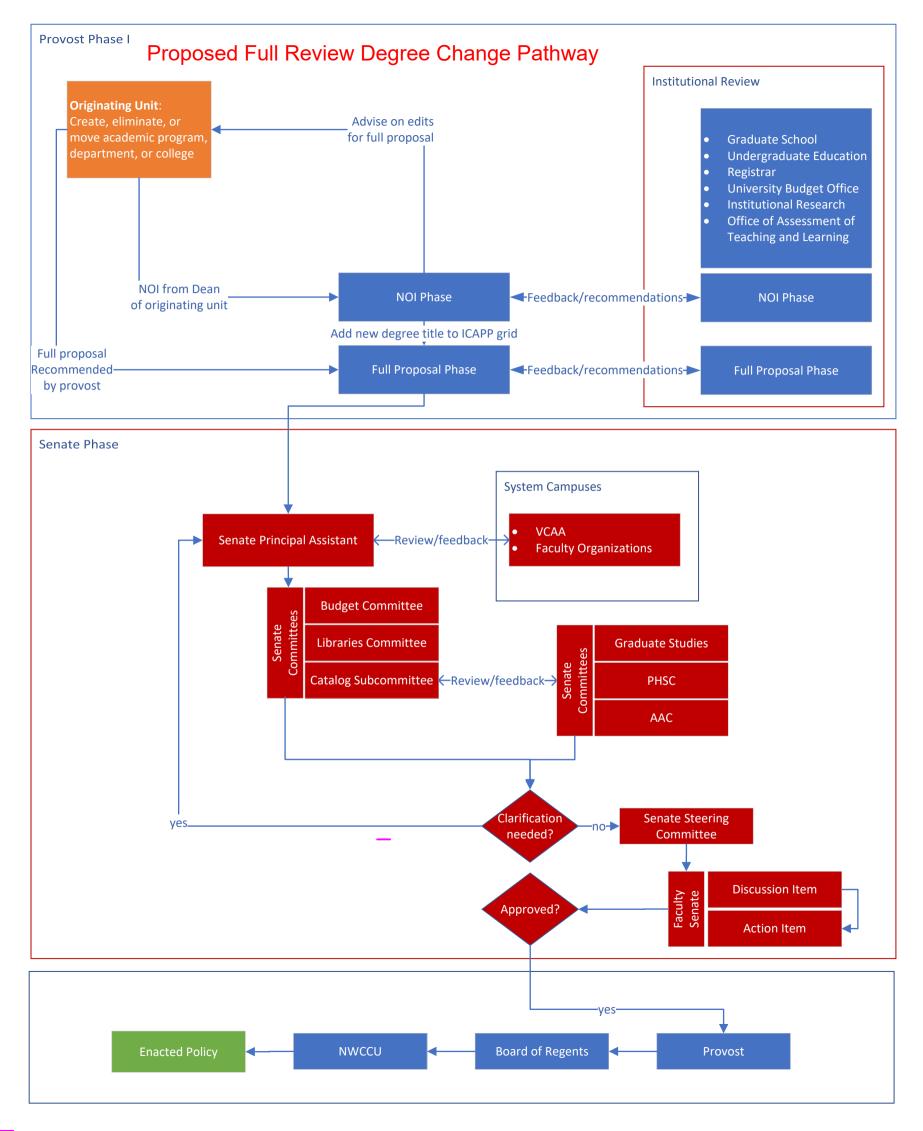
WSU Senate Steering moves that the processes outlined in this memo and attach flow charts be accepted.

## **Review Process for New Degrees and Selected**

## Degree Changes

## Current Degree Change Pathway

**Pre-Proposal Phase** (Goal: 14 days) Notice of Intent (NOI) Approved by Chair & Dean, and, if applicable, Chancellor and/or Vice President of Global Campus **Graduate School** Provost **Colleges and Campuses** Review and make • Circulates to Grad School, UG  $\leftrightarrow$ recommendation Education, Colleges, & Campuses **Review and Comment** • Authorizes/does not authorize preparation of full proposal **Undergrad Education** \*Interinstitutional Committee If NOI approved, adds degree title to Review and make on Academic Program Planning ICAPP\* grid recommendation Full Proposal - Provost Phase (fulfilled by NOI for lesser changes) (Goal: 14 days) Full Proposal Undergraduate Approved by Chair, Dean, and, if applicable, Chancellor Graduate & Professional and/or Vice President of Global Campus Proposals Proposals Graduate Undergraduate **Budget Office**, Library Education School and IR (if needed) Provost Assessment Office (only May conduct external review undergrad programs) Signs and forwards to Faculty Senate Forwards Summary to ICAPP (30-day Comment Period) Full Proposal - Faculty Senate Phase (Goal: 60 days) **Faculty Senate Office** Senate Budget and Library **Graduate Studies Academic Affairs Committee** Committees Committee (Undergraduate/ Professional (Graduate Proposals) Proposals) **Catalog Subcommittee** ╈ **Faculty Senate for Action** Board of Regents Action—variable timeline **External Approval Phase** NWCCU approval—variable timeline With NWCCU approval, program can advertise Provost reports approval to: Department, College, Campus Graduate School, Institutional Research, **Registrar, Student Financial Svs ICAPP** WA Student Achievement Council Dir. Fin Aid reports to Department of Education (approval req'd for Fin Aid)



## Proposed Fast Track Degree Change Pathway

