

**Post-APR Action Plan - INDS (Individualized Studies)**

Steve Freeland, Katharine Cole, Tony Moreira, Sarah Shin, Pat McDermott, Philip Rous

Recommendation	DEPARTMENT ACTION	COLLEGE ACTION	PROVOST'S OFFICE ACTION	Action Plan
<p>“The rebranding of INDS is a marketing opportunity for UMBC that can increase the attractiveness of major research university with relatively few majors”</p>	X	X	X	<p>INDS will work with Dean Cole and the Provost’s office to identify specific, appropriate experts (including enrollment management, OIA, advising etc.) who can guide us how best to benefit UMBC through appropriate marketing.</p> <p>By deadline: August 2020</p>
<p>Relocation to more pleasant space adjacent to similar units, such as the Honors College would have benefits for INDS students and staff, as well as the broader community.</p>	X	X	X	<p>Given that relocation is currently not an option, INDS will begin working with Dean Cole and the Provost’s office to mitigate shortcomings of the current location.</p> <p>First and foremost, this will address carpeting, furniture, and paint for FA009. INDS and Dean Cole will provide a cost estimate to the Provost's Office.</p> <p>Second, INDS will work with Dean Cole and VP Moreira to formalize the extent of responsibilities and cost sharing for the improvement of classroom FA002.</p> <p>Third, INDS will work with Dean Cole and Facilities Management to explore options for a covered and secure site for the continuance of the Kinetic Sculpture applied learning.</p> <p>By deadline: January 2020</p>

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<p>Reviewers' suggestions #4 and #5: (#4) INDS should look for ways to expand service to non-majors in some of the ways identified above. (#5) Careful, gradual expansion of the number of majors should occur in consultation with administration since resources will need to accompany any dramatic increases.</p>	X	X	X	<p>#4. INDS has worked over the period covered by this APR to adapt enrollment so as to fit the current budget. In particular, we have kept the number of students graduating each year constant while reducing enrollment by becoming far more efficient at re-directing students to other majors where appropriate while finding and retaining students who belong in INDS. #5. INDS will now turn focused attention to identify specific populations at UMBC who could benefit from this work such as : BIOL majors who are interested in biomedical futures but are not well fitted to medical school or graduate school; assisting Computer Science (CMSC) to deliver on an NSF grant ("X+CS"); work with aspiring premedical students who would benefit from help in developing their plans for a broader undergraduate education.</p> <p>By deadline: August 2020</p>
<p>Changes to the processes of the program could increase efficiency (e.g., in the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee (ISC) approval process and the use of mentors)</p>	X	X		<p>INDS used Spring '19 to explore refinements to the workflow of the Interdisciplinary Studies Committee (ISC). The INDS director has been in active discussion with Dean Cole about the results since Summer '19. INDS will make changes in the INDS degree approval process and in the ISC's role in that process beginning AY19-20.</p> <p>By deadline: August 2020</p>
<p>Possible modifications of core INDS curriculum (allowing for simultaneous enrollment in some of the core courses) could accommodate transfer students while also improving time to degree of all majors.</p>	X	X		<p>INDS used Spring '19 to pilot and assess one specific approach by allowing appropriate students to co-enroll in INDS399 and INDS480. In summer '19 INDS reported to Dean Cole our assessment of this approach, and its limitations, leading INDS to now try a different approach to the same goal for AY19-20, namely the introduction of a single-semester continuation of e-portfolios as an alternative to our "traditional," 2-semester, independent research capstone (see action item below)</p> <p>By deadline: August 2020</p>

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To help support the work of mentors, modest compensation at the time of student completion might be considered.	X	X	X	<p>In summer '19 INDS initiated discussions with Dean Cole about this recommendation. INDS will explore how faculty work is recognized for this mentoring work.</p> <p>By deadline: August 2020</p>
Expansion of current e-portfolios could help students develop their individualized degree programs effectively.	X			<p>INDS is actively engaged in expanding students' use of e-portfolios, from pre-APR use in INDS399 to current, sustained use through the core sequence INDS335-&gt;INDS399-&gt;INDS480. INDS approaches AY19-20 exploring the use of portfolios as an alternative to the traditional capstone research project</p> <p>By deadline: January 2020</p>