Undergraduate Studies Council Charges for 2009-2010

For this year, the Faculty Senate Executive Board did not present the Undergraduate Studies Council with a formal list of charges, but left this matter up to the council. At its 10 November 2009 meeting, the USC approved the following 2009-10 activities:

- 1. Contact the Campus Planning and Finance Council to clarify USC's function #6 in the USC role statement: "To confirm that financial support necessary to initiate and maintain the proposed new programs or program changes has been approved by the appropriate University body (e.g. Campus Planning and Finance Council)."
- 2. Continue with 2008-09 charge #4: "Review the availability of resources and services to foster student retention and develop recommendations for enhancing them if determined necessary. Examples might include but not be limited to the First-Year Experience, mid-term grade reporting, grading scales (i.e. +/-)." Focus on expansion of mid-term grading and the Attendance Initiative.
- 3. Discuss the role of faculty in the WMU strategic plan. Specifically to discuss an "alliance" between faculty and student populations in relation to the mission of the University with respect to teaching and research, with the initial focus of USC discussions on the strategic plan's statement of the WMU mission.
- 4. Request assessment of general education and baccalaureate-level writing requirement from the Committee to Oversee General Education.
- 5. Review the University's dismissal policy (at provost's request) and consider giving students two complete semesters before dismissal. If agreed, develop a Memorandum Of Action to change current policy.
- 6. Explore methods to include students in the Center for English Language and Culture for International Students in the official count of WMU student population, e.g., extension of guest student policy to cover CELCIS students (at provost's request).

NOTE: It is understood that the USC will seek information from all administrative offices necessary to carry out its charges. The USC is expected to keep the Senate Executive Board apprised of progress, especially in connection with any MOA it may develop, and to give advance notice of any action the USC seeks to place on the Senate agenda, including the final text of any proposed MOA, report or resolution. The Executive Board should also be notified of substantive procedural issues addressed by the USC. The USC shall provide a written summary of its progress on the above charges and any other activities undertaken no later than June 30, 2010.