

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

November 10, 2006

Ralph T. Putnam, Ph.D.
Chairperson, University Committee on Academic Policy
509 C Erickson Hall
Campus

Dear Ralph:

At its September 26, 2006 meeting the Academic Council approved a resolution to establish the University Committee on Liberal Learning. This committee was recommended in the report of the Working Group to Improve Undergraduate Education (WGIUE). WGIUE's primary charge was to bring coherence to the Realizing the Vision task force reports on Integrative Studies, Writing, and Quantitative Literacy.

WGIUE envisioned this committee to be a community of scholars (faculty, students, and staff) with "The primary intention (of establishing) and maintain(ing) a campus wide dialog focused on advancing the goals of liberal learning among the University, College, and Disciplinary academic requirements." The executive summary of their report can be found at

http://undergrad.msu.edu/documents/EXECUTIVE_SUMMARY-FINAL_WGIUE_REPORT.pdf.

Toward this end, Academic Council approved a committee made up of the following members:

Voting:

- The Director of each of the Integrative Studies Centers
- 1 faculty representing University writing requirements
- 1 faculty representing the area of quantitative literacy
- 1 faculty member from each college offering undergraduate programs
- 1 faculty member from University Libraries
- 2 undergraduate students
- 1 continuing system academic specialist whose major function is advising

Ex-officio:

- 1 liaison from UCC
- **1 liaison from UCAP**
- 1 representative from ISP
- 1 representative from the Honors College
- Dean of Undergraduate Studies, or designee



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I am seeking your recommendation for a liaison from the University Committee on Academic Policy who would be interested in assisting in advancing the liberal learning goals of Michigan State University. Please note that section 5.1. of the Bylaws for Academic Governance specifies that “The term of office shall be two years for faculty and one year for students. No member may serve for more than two consecutive terms.” Given the timing for committee implementation, in discussions with the Secretary for Academic Governance I am recommending that the UCAP liaison serve a 1.5 year term.

The intent is to bring the committee together for the first time early next semester and begin the process implementing operating procedures and setting both short and long term goals. I would appreciate your recommendation sometime prior to the end of this semester.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. Estry, Ph.D.
Acting Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and
Dean of Undergraduate Studies

cc: Linda Stanford
Joy Speas