

**Academic Standards Council
End-of-Year Report 2009-2010**

Progress Made on Standing Charges:

- 1. Review and recommend policy for the adoption, implementation and enforcement of educational and academic standards.**
 - *The Council drafted and put forth an Academic Integrity Code to be posted on websites, in syllabi, and in other locales to raise the community's awareness of academic integrity. This was passed by the Senate in April 2010.*
 - *The Council drafted and put forth a policy on permission and usage of electronic recordings in the classroom, passed by the Senate on May 6, 2010.*

- 2. Review and recommend policy for the adoption, implementation and enforcement of educational and academic standards in curricular issues.**
 - *The Council created a form for Internships to accompany the guidelines for Internships set forth by last year's Council and passed by the Senate in May 2009.*

- 3. Liaise with university officials responsible for all academic policy matters to conduct an ongoing review of their effectiveness.**
 - *The Council plans on drafting a letter to the Administration in the upcoming fall semester to address this issue.*

Additional Charges for 2009-10:

- 1. Develop strategies to implement and communicate the Academic Integrity Policy approved by the Senate on September 8, 2008.**
 - *The Council has checked with the Administration as to the status of the new AIP, and found that it is still in the Attorney General's office.*

- 2. Report to the Senate on the prevalence and justification for the use of "exceptions" to the curriculum (e.g. the use of course waivers, the use of 100-level course as Upper-level electives) and recommend a standard policy.**
 - *The Council is awaiting the implementation of the new UCC before dealing with this charge.*

3. Develop academic standards and basic guidelines for online courses.

- *The Council has researched how online courses are conducted at other institutions, drafted ideas, and begun discussions on the revision of our current policy to add clear academic standards.*

4. Assess the academic efficacy (e.g. learning outcomes, prerequisites) in the concentrated-course formats (Winter session, 3- and 4-week summer sessions).

- *The Council plans on consulting the new hire in this area, Patrick Noonan, in order to deal with this charge.*

5. Report on the number of credits hours required for students to receive Latin Honors (i.e. cum laude, magna cum laude, summa cum laude) in light of the new 120-credits requirement for graduation and recommend any charges that would make it more probable that students could achieve honors within the 120-credit limit.

- *The Council has recommended that the number of credits required for Latin Honors be reduced to 60 in order to accommodate the new 120 credit requirement to go into effect fall 2010. However, the Senate has asked the Council to continue to look at this. The Council, therefore, is consulting with the Admissions Council, as well as with departments, such as Education, in which students who are required to take P/F classes and might be at a disadvantage in achieving Latin Honors. This discussion will continue into the 2010-2011 academic year.*

6. Develop a protocol for liaison relations with the administration (e.g. to evaluate the effectiveness of academic standards policies).

- (See Standing Charge #3)

RECOMMENDED CHARGES FOR 2010-2011

- *Resolve Latin Honors issue*
- *Continue with revision of online course guidelines*
- *Begin to develop strategies to implement the new Academic Integrity Policy*
- *Develop a form to accompany the Recording Policy*