**Academic Senate Standing Committee on Internationalization**

**End-of-Year Report for 2007-08**

Chairs: Mohey Mowafy (HPER) and Tawni Ferrarini (Economics)

The academic year 2007-2008 is the first year of service provided by the Committee on Internationalization (COI) to the Academic Senate. The Committee’s function is to advise and report to the Senate on a wide range of issues regarding internationalization at NMU and, to the extent possible, support faculty, student, staff and administrator efforts to internationalize the curriculum and the campus community. The ultimate goal of such efforts is to position NMU as an institution whose graduates demonstrate a knowledge base that encompasses a global perspective and a strong sense of global community.

This report covers the activities of the committee since its mid-term report to the Senate, issued in December 2007 and posted on the Academic Senate website in January 2008. During the Winter 2008 semester, the Committee has met six times, with one more meeting projected. Two of the “challenges” cited in the previous report have been met by the adoption of a mission statement for COI and the provost’s approval of the Handbook for Faculty led Study Abroad (FLSA). COI members provided detailed suggestions on a draft of this manual, which were incorporated into the final document. In addition, COI has

* Approved a wording change to its Operating Procedures to clarify its mission.
* Heard reports from two members (Marcelo Siles and Goodrich), who attended the Institute of International Education Best Practices Conference in New York City with support from the Provost.
* Developed a brief survey for the purpose of gaining preliminary feedback about departmental perceptions of the state of internationalization at NMU, and to learn of any new departmental proposals in the pipeline. A more detailed survey of internationalization resources and activities will be developed in the fall.
* Met with the Chairs of the Liberal Studies Committee (LSC) and the Committee on Undergraduate Programs (CUP) and plans to meet with the International Studies Academic Advisor Committee (ISAAC). COI has or will discuss their perceived roles in internationalization of the curriculum, the curricular issues they deem important in respect to internationalization, and how COI’s function might complement theirs. These discussions have confirmed that there are no bars to internationalizing the curriculum at NMU and that a wide range of curricular models are available for faculty to explore for internationalization. They have also confirmed that such models and new courses must seek approval through established committees and contractual mechanisms such as department bylaws and the Master Agreement -- providing clear and explicit information about the course content and objectives, and establishing how the course assignments, class meetings, and activities relate to credit hours. We plan to hold similar meetings with other stakeholders in the future.