

ACADEMIC SENATE 2008-09

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONALIZATION

Amy Orf, Chair

Mark Shevy, Secretary

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Members of the Academic Senate

From: Committee on Internationalization
Subject: Year-End Report for 2008-09
First Reading: April 21, 2009

The academic year 2008-2009 is the second year of service provided by the Committee on Internationalization (COI) to the Academic Senate. The Committee’s function is to advise and make recommendations 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 on Internationalization since its year-end report for 2007-08 to the Senate, issued in April 2008 and posted on the Academic Senate website in January 2009. The Committee met 5 times during Fall 2008 and has met 5 times in Winter 2009, with 1 more meeting projected.

During the academic year 2008-09 COI has

* met with Provost and Vice-President of Academic Affairs Susan Koch to discuss COI’s mission and the state of internationalization on campus from the Provost’s perspective
* met with Dr. Sandra Poindexter to discuss COI’s role in internationalization with respect to the AQIP report being prepared, specifically question 1P16, regarding the alignment of co-curricular goals and curricular learning objectives
* updated its website to include the Year-End Report for 2007-08 and Minutes from Committee meetings from September 2007 through January 2009
* developed a report on the Current Status of Internationalization on the NMU Campus and submitted the section on the status of the International Studies program to the Academic Senate in Winter 2009
* met with Director of Housing and Residence Life Carl Holm in order to discuss the needs of international students on campus and to discuss how an increase in enrollment by international students might affect his department
* begun a discussion of best practices in internationalizing the campus by looking at on-line presentations from the 2008 Institute of International Education Best Practices Conference, as well as the American Council on Education’s booklets *Building a Strategic Framework for Comprehensive Internationalization* and *Internationalization in U.S. Higher Education: The Student Perspective*
* invited Dr. Timothy Compton, Head of Modern Languages & Literatures, to discuss the details of a Title 6 grant proposal that he is writing
* invited Mr. John Mallo and Ms. Angie Maki, from the Office of International Programs, to attend an upcoming COI meeting in order to discuss their role in helping international students on NMU’s campus

The Committee on Internationalization has met a number of the goals that it set for itself this academic year. We met with the Provost to discuss the current status and future directions for the internationalization initiative, continued to show support for the International Studies program, and investigated best practices in internationalization to better inform our own practices.

COI has set a number of goals for the 2009-10 academic year also. The committee plans to:

* disseminate a list of best practices in internationalizing the campus
* collaborate with the Office of International Programs to prepare a student handbook for Faculty-Led Study Abroad programs, to accompany the faculty handbook, already approved
* promote the recruitment and retention of international students on NMU’s campus by addressing issues related to housing and campus life

* hold an open forum on internationalization for students, faculty, staff, and administrators to promote dialogue regarding the vision of internationalization on campus