

## Academic Standards Council End-of-Year Report 2008-2009

### Progress Made on Standing Charges:

1. Review and recommend policy for the adoption, implementation and enforcement of educational and academic standards.

*At the beginning of the fall 2008 semester, the Council presented to the Faculty Senate the revised Academic Integrity Policy that we had completed at the end of the 2007-2008 academic year. The Senate passed the policy, and the Executive Council sent it to the appropriate administrative bodies to be vetted.*

2. Review and recommend policy for the adoption, implementation and enforcement of educational and academic standards in curricular issues.

*The newly revised Academic Integrity Policy involves significant issues pertaining to educational and academic standards in curricular issues.*

3. Liaise with university officials responsible for all academic policy matters to conduct an ongoing review of their effectiveness.

### Additional Charges for 2008-9:

1. Establish academic standards for internships and online courses.

- *The Council culled information from departments across campus about current Internship practices, and wrote a draft of basic guidelines for Internships. With a couple of minor changes, the new Senate passed this document on May 7, 2009.*
- *The Council has gathered information about online courses from various sources, including Housen Maratouk from the Blackboard Institute, and discussed the next steps in pursuing this topic and writing campus guidelines.*

2. Develop a policy on the use of electronic recording devices in classroom environments at WPUNJ.

*The Council drafted a statement on the use of electronic recording devices in the classroom, and submitted it to the Senate Executive Council in the spring.*

3. Develop a standard statement on Academic Integrity that faculty may use in syllabi.

*The Council drafted two statements for this purpose, based on research from existing Honor Codes:*

- a) A version from the "I" perspective to be included on syllabi*
- b) A version from the "we" perspective for inclusion on university web pages*

*These were submitted to the Senate Executive Council in the spring.*

4. Study whether or not WPUNJ should have an honor code.

*The Council determined that a new Academic Integrity Policy, along with statements as described above, would be best at this time for the WPU community.*

#### **Proposed Additional Charges for the Council in 2008-2009**

1. *Development of standardized forms to accompany Internship guidelines.*
2. *Development of basic university wide guidelines for online courses.*
3. *Development of strategies to implement and communicate the Academic Integrity Policy (following its approval).*
4. *Development of a protocol for liaison relations with the administration (e.g., to evaluate the effectiveness of academic standards policies).*