Western Michigan University
Faculty Senate
Memorandum of Action

MOA – 18/07
Revision of Undergraduate Studies Council Role Statement

Name of Council(s)/Committee(s):
Undergraduate Studies Council

Approval Date:
May 8, 2018

Implementation Date:
Upon Approval of the Faculty Senate Executive Board

RECOMMENDATION:
Revise the Undergraduate Studies Council Role Statement as recommended by the Undergraduate Studies Council.

Bruce Ferrin, Chair, Undergraduate Studies Council

Date: 4/4/18

☐ Approve □ Disapprove □ Other Action

Comments:

Richard A. Gershon, WMU Faculty Senate President

Date: 9-28-18
Western Michigan University
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RATIONALE
Due to the development and expected implementation of WMU Essential Studies, the revised general education program, it is necessary to remove oversight and duties pertaining to general education.

RECOMMENDATION
Revise the Undergraduate Studies Council Role Statement as follows.

CURRENT ROLE STATEMENT (additions in bold and deletions with strikethrough)
The Undergraduate Studies Council (USC) is a policy recommending and review body with oversight of any matter related to the undergraduate curriculum at the University. Thus, for example, it will be concerned with the reviews, develops, and recommends policy regarding undergraduate education, except for the WMU Essential Studies curriculum at Western Michigan University. Policy recommendations shall include, but are not limited to, the establishment of new departmental programs, new interdisciplinary undergraduate programs, apparent duplication between existing programs, or courses, and needs for additional or specialized instruction, and assurance of learning procedures for new and existing undergraduate programs. USC shall, at its discretion or as charged by the Faculty Senate Executive Board, consider any issues it believes directly affects the undergraduate curricula and programs of the University.

Functions
1. To develop policy concerning undergraduate programs and curricula.
2. To elect faculty members of the Committee to Oversee General Education; Conceptual Framework, Knowledge Base and Certification Committee; and Intellectual Skills Program Advisory Committee.
3. To observe and assess all recommendations of the COGE, including recommended revisions to the University’s General Education Policy, and to select other general education matters that USC believes require review.
4. To consider questions of duplication of current course or program content, possibly delegating to an appropriate ad hoc subcommittee the consideration of specific areas, after which the USC can initiate remedial action.
5. To consider possible deficiencies in programs or course offerings needed by students in other programs and, if necessary, to initiate remedial steps.
6. To consider whether or not the undergraduate curriculum is meeting student needs and make recommendations as appropriate.
7. To consider any other matters that it believes directly affect the undergraduate curricula and programs of the University.