15 May 2014

TO: Timothy J. Greene
    Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

FR: William G. Rantz
    Faculty Senate President

RE: Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) States Initiative Resolution

The enclosed resolution is sent for administrative consideration on behalf of the Faculty Senate. The Senate is in support of Western Michigan University formally accepting inclusion into the Michigan LEAP State Initiative and participation in the process to establish Michigan as an AAC&U LEAP State.

This was discussed with and received endorsement from the Senate's Undergraduate Studies Council, Committee to Oversee General Education and the Senate Executive Board prior to being presented and approved without objection at today's 15 May Senate meeting.

The Senate would appreciate being notified of any administrative decisions on this resolution.

Thank you.

Enclosure
A Resolution to Support Western Michigan University Joining Other Institutions in the State of Michigan to Seek LEAP State Designation from the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U)

Whereas, associate provosts at all fifteen public universities in the State of Michigan have begun exploring the AAC&U Leap States Initiative;

Whereas, Western Michigan University supports the basic philosophy and merits of a liberal education as articulated by the AAC&U;

Whereas, the value of higher education has come under fire in recent years;

Whereas, higher education institutions in the state have not effectively communicated to the public the benefit of a bachelor’s degree;

Whereas, higher education institutions across the state can benefit from discussions across institutional boundaries of common concerns;

Whereas, Michigan institutions of higher education could benefit from the facilitated interaction and opportunities for collaboration with other LEAP states through the AAC&U;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Western Michigan University formally accepts inclusion into the Michigan LEAP State Initiative and pledges participation in the process to establish Michigan as an AAC&U LEAP State.