COMMUNITY: Committee on Academic Affairs and Student Affairs

MISSION STATEMENT / CHARGE

To define, oversee and modify policies and plans that ensure fulfillment of the University’s educational mission, including what students learn and how they learn it, the effectiveness of teaching and learning, selection, recognition and development of faculty, student life staff and academic support staff, assessing and rewarding excellence in providing a holistic education, organization of departments, divisions and colleges, academic and student life standards and requirements, and the appropriate balance between teaching, scholarship/research and service.

MEMBERSHIP, LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

- **MEMBERSHIP:** Membership of the Committee shall consist of nine to twelve members, including five Trustees who are interested in and committed to the institution’s academic and student life programs and priorities – especially the integration and coordination of the educational programs – and representatives from other standing committees (especially the Finance / Buildings & Grounds), as well as appropriate faculty (usually two), student life (usually two student life professionals or related staff) and student (one or two) “delegates.”

- **LEADERSHIP:** The chair and vice-chair of Committee must be experienced Trustees who understand the higher education enterprise in general, the specific academic and student life mission and goals of the University, the nature and impact of shared governance, and the value of a holistic, integrated approach to achieving the University’s educational goals.

- **ORGANIZATION:** Normally, the Committee should meet on a quarterly basis or in conjunction with regularly scheduled Board meetings. The Committee will be staffed by the chief academic and student life officers.
RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The Committee shall ensure that academic and student life programs are consistent with the University’s mission and strategic plan / goals, and that they are effectively integrated in an holistic approach to student learning.
- It shall ensure that the institutional budget reflects the institution’s educational plan and priorities.
- It shall ensure that faculty and student life personnel policies and procedures complement the educational priorities of the institution.
- The Committee shall ensure that the institution’s academic and student life programs are appropriate for its students.
- It shall ensure that the institution assesses the effectiveness of all its educational programs, the learning outcomes of all its students – undergraduate, graduate and professional – and the resulting initiatives for continuous improvement.

AGENDA—POLICIES & PRACTICES TO CONSIDER:

- The Committee should set its own agenda, guided by the institution’s mission, strategic plan and other planning documents; it should heed but not be driven by the suggestions of the chief academic and student life officers, other administrators and faculty, student life and student leaders.
- [See the Strategic Plan and the President’s and Board’s Annual Strategic Priorities for Agenda Items … 2008-2009.]