

UW REGULATION 407

University Studies Program

1. PURPOSE.

To establish the University Studies Committee as a standing committee of Faculty Senate, as per Faculty Senate Resolution 288.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION.

The Board of Trustees, VPAA, and Faculty Senate have established a set of University requirements for the award of the baccalaureate degree (the University Studies Program). The current review of those requirements calls for the revision of the administrative structure, greater participation by the Faculty Senate, and evaluation on a regular basis. Further, the anticipated evolution of the program in response to faculty initiatives and intensified assessment will proceed more effectively if the committee has clearly defined responsibilities and greater flexibility in carrying out its duties.

3. UNIVERSITY STUDIES COMMITTEE.

a. Rationale.

The University Studies Program requires completion of specific requirements in identified areas of study in accordance with criteria approved by the University Faculty Senate. In cooperation with the Board of Trustees and academic administrators, the Faculty Senate is responsible for making decisions regarding curriculum.

b. Functions.

The University Studies Committee shall:

- i. Develop and maintain a planning, review and assessment process for the University Studies Program
- ii. Define the philosophy, learning outcomes desired, and criteria for courses in the relevant areas of study, with Faculty Senate approval.
- iii. Identify and approve courses for the Program.

iv. Consult with and advise academic departments concerning the needs and requirements of the Program.

v. Grant approval of alternative courses or pilot programs to fulfill University Studies requirements for a limited time.

vi. Appoint ad hoc sub-committees as needed to accomplish the goals of 3.B.i-v and to select and review courses that meet the criteria approved by the Faculty Senate.

vii. Develop and maintain appropriate linkages with the Academic Planning Committee, the Faculty University Course Review Committee, and the Student Interaction Committee, with particular regard to new courses or modification of courses considered for approval as meeting requirements of the Program.

viii. Make reports and recommendations to the Faculty Senate as may be deemed appropriate or as requested.

ix. Consider and grant such waivers of requirements of the University Studies Program to petitioning students as warranted by unusual and extenuating circumstances, upon recommendation of the Coordinator (see 4.b.).

c. Composition.

Members of the University Studies Committee will include one tenured or tenure-track faculty member from each of the undergraduate colleges and from the Libraries and University Services unit, with the exception that the College of Arts and Sciences shall have two representatives. Each College or group will elect their own representatives, and these names will be forwarded to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for approval. The initial Committee will be divided in thirds to serve one-, two-, or three-year terms. As the initial Committee members finish their terms, the College or support unit represented by those members will nominate their own representatives, and these nominations will be forwarded to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for approval. Faculty representatives shall serve staggered three-year terms. Members who have served a three-year term cannot succeed themselves. Vice presidents, deans, associate and assistant deans, and directors shall not be eligible to serve on the Committee. A student designated by the

Associated Students of the University of Wyoming Senate shall be a member with vote, and the President, Vice President for Academic Affairs, a representative from Student Affairs, the Academic Planning Committee, the Dean's Council, Academic Advising, and the Wyoming community colleges shall be ex officio members without vote. The Committee shall elect its chairperson. The Chair or his/her designee shall serve as an ex officio member of the Faculty University Course Review Committee. The University Studies Coordinator shall serve as secretary of the Committee and maintain a record of the minutes of meetings. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate shall fill temporary vacancies on the University Studies Committee.

4. UNIVERSITY STUDIES COORDINATOR.

a. Designation.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs in consultation with the University Studies Committee will designate a suitably qualified person to perform the duties of the University Studies Coordinator, who shall be responsible to the Vice President for administration of the University Studies Program.

b. Responsibilities.

The University Studies Coordinator will work directly with the University Studies Committee and other appropriate faculties, University officers, and Faculty Senate committees to:

- i. make recommendations for the fiscal support of the University Studies Program.
- ii. be responsible for maintaining approved course lists and disseminating information about the program on and off campus.
- iii. assist faculty and sponsoring departments in preparing or modifying University course offerings for the Program.
- iv. implement an assessment plan as established by the University Studies Committee in 3.b.i.
- v. make recommendations for waivers or substitution of University Studies Program requirements by petitioning students.
- vii. serve as an ad hoc (non-voting) member of the University Studies Program Committee.

Source:

University Regulation 407, Revision 3; adopted 7/17/08 Board of Trustees meeting