This year the Curriculum Committee has considered changes to the curriculum in four areas:

- **Writing Requirement.** The committee completed and submitted to the faculty for a vote the addition of a writing requirement to the All-College Requirements. The faculty adopted the proposal, which requires that beginning with the entering class of 2010 students submit and pass a first-year, writing portfolio assessment. Those who fail to pass the first-year assessment may complete the requirement by successfully completing either a Writing Intensive course or a Writing Enhancement course, taken in conjunction with a Writing in the Discipline course.

- **Diverse Cultures and Critiques (D) Requirement.** In the fall of 2007, the faculty directed that a committee review the Diverse Cultures and Critiques Requirement. For the past two academic years, the Curriculum Committee has undertaken this review with an eye towards reforming and fixing certain perceived difficulties with the requirement. After reviewing the requirement and soliciting suggestions from various faculty and campus groups, we proposed changes to the D requirement with department and program chairs last fall. The response to that proposal by various members of the faculty leads us to believe that there is not sufficient consensus among the faculty as to how to reform the requirement. We have therefore abandoned any reform of the D requirement at this time.

- **Large-Enrollment Courses.** Recently, various constituencies at the college have discussed the possibility of teaching classes with more than 25 students. This year, the Curriculum Committee reviewed options for implementing large-format classes and proposed criteria for such courses. In the spring semester, the FEC directed the committee not to pursue discussion with students on this topic and to hold off on this proposal pending further study. We have complied.
**Limited-Enrollment Courses.** Following a review of courses that have *ad hoc* limited enrollments designation, the committee made recommendations to the Dean and Registrar on the management of these courses. The recommendations include periodic review of all courses with limited enrollment status to determine whether courses still meet the stated rationale for limiting enrollment, the conversion of some limited-enrollment courses that require extensive writing assignments into Writing Intensive courses, and a review by this committee in two years of the current policy for assigning courses limited enrollment status.

**Additional Items**

In addition to the areas listed above, the committee is considering other areas of the curriculum that we believe need review. These are:

- Discussion of whether the block plan has evolved into an unhealthy rigidity, and if so, what can be done about it.
- Addressing the issue of grade inflation and what the college can do, if anything, to remedy this problem.
- A review of the All-College requirements of the college with the intent of changing. There appears to be substantial dissatisfaction among both faculty and students with the current All-College requirements. Thus, the college may now be ripe for beginning the process of a major revision to the college’s requirements. We have begun this process by surveying the faculty and students on their general satisfaction with the requirements.

In actions not related to the curriculum, the committee has recommended to the FEC that in staffing this committee in the coming years it look to faculty members with sufficient stature on curricular issues to effectively lead the faculty and college forward in these important deliberations, most specifically in possible changes to the All-College requirements. We also recommended that the FEC establish clear lines of responsibility for curricular issues rather than the hodge-podge of responsibilities that have grown up around the overlapping charges of this and other college committees, both standing and *ad hoc*. 