AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

1. NAME OF ITEM: Updates:
   Credit Transfer Steering Committee
   ABCDE
   International Study Center

2. INITIATED BY: Gregory G. Johnson, Chair

3. BOARD INFORMATION: X BOARD ACTION:

4. BACKGROUND:

These three initiatives were implemented within the last year and are well underway. This brief update will provide members of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee with information related to progress to date.

Credit Transfer Steering Committee
As has been discussed at recent Board meetings, the Credit Transfer Project is aimed at improving the college credit transfer process to make it easier for students to move among Maine’s public universities and to transfer from the Maine Community College System (MCCS) to the University of Maine System (UMS) and vice versa. President Wilson Hess, chair of the Credit Transfer Steering Committee (CTSC), will update the Board Academic and Student Affairs Committee on progress being made toward implementation of the intra-system (within the UMS) component of this important work and the beginning stages of the inter-system work with the MCCS.

Adult Baccalaureate Completion Distance Education (ABCDE)
As identified within the Board of Trustees Goals and Actions and also within the UMS Strategic Enrollment Plan, the development of a comprehensive approach across our institutions to serving the non-traditional, adult students in Maine is a critical next step in our ongoing efforts to meet the needs of Maine’s workforce, enhance economic development within the state, and, most importantly, provide the best opportunity for all of Maine’s citizens to attain baccalaureate degrees.

The Adult Baccalaureate Completion/Distance Education (ABCDE) Committee developed a comprehensive, system-wide plan to enhance baccalaureate degree attainment and completion by Maine’s adult and non-campus based citizens; implementation of the recommendations is well underway with the recent announcement related to adult degree completion scholarships. President Allyson Handley, chair of the ABCDE Committee, will present a short update for the Board Academic and Student Affairs Committee.

International Study Center
Approximately two years ago, the process began to identify partner with whom to work in
the establishment of two International Study Centers within our System. The availability of such Centers helps recruit and retain international students, and provide students with exposure to English, American culture and some first year college courses. Benefits of such Centers include increases in enrollment and residence hall occupancy, a more streamlined approach to international recruitment and an increase in the diversity of our student body. Study Group was selected as the organization with whom we would work.

Vice Chancellor Hunter and Karen Boucias, University of Maine Senior Liaison for Study Group, will provide the Academic and Student Affairs Committee with a brief update on the current status of this project.