

**Why White Papers?**  
*by Committee on Designated Curriculum Matters*  
*Northwest Missouri State University*

The committee on Designated Curriculum Matters (DCM) is a standing subcommittee of the Curriculum and Degree Requirements Committee concerned with matters related to Freshman Seminar, technology-based courses, the Honors Program, articulation agreements, General Education, and dual-credit courses.

In the fall of 2004, the committee surveyed Northwest's faculty regarding direction on these matters. Faculty showed strong concern about three of the issues: (1) Freshman Seminar classes, (2) Institutional graduation requirements, and (3) the Honors Program. In response, the DCM has developed four white papers.

Since DCM is not an administrative committee, these white papers were developed as a method of documenting research and recommendations of the committee. It is the intention that other faculty and administrators consult these papers when developing or changing Northwest policy regarding the above curriculum matters.