
Absent: Annatoyn, Ayoob, Banks, Bauer, Berens, Black, C. Brown, Catrine, Crawford, Dobson, Doherty, Fitzgerald, Fraker, Gehl, Gelbke, Gossain, Gray, Harris, Hovey, Hughes, Hyndman, Kaguni, Kaplan, Klomparens, Lindemann, Lloyd, Love, Ludy, Martin, Munn, Newhouse, Ostrom, Owen, Putnam, Rappley, Robinson, Smith, St. Arnault, Ten Eyck, Thornburg, Turner, Wolfson, Yansa 43

The meeting began at 3:17 p.m. with a full quorum present.

Approval of Agenda:
The agenda was amended, adding the President’s Remarks. The amended agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of September 26, 2006 were approved as distributed.

President’s Remarks:
President Simon thanked the faculty, staff and students who have contributed generously to the Capitol Campaign. It was important to reach the $1.2 Billion dollar goal ahead of schedule because there is much work to do to raise endowments. The President had just returned from the AAU meeting where the discussions included the decline in State funding for those institutions that are public and private and the need to raise more money.

The spotlight is on private giving and the need to make this part of the institution. Most of the AAU meeting was devoted to the international agenda, focusing primarily on India and China. Each institution present at the meeting was focusing aggressively on India.
and China in research collaborations and educational programs. This fits well with the plans under the Boldness by Design initiatives at MSU.

A second important part of the discussions was the issue of how to improve the representation in stem disciplines and the focus was on trying to move the most talent available, with special attention to women in science and under represented minority groups. The concern was how we can, as a collective group, work as aggressively as possible to keep as many in science and engineering. There was also a concern expressed at the meeting about cyber security and the way in which the internet and related communication is good but not as secure as we may have thought. The final topic was discussion on the Spellings Commission. The AAU believes that greater transparency is necessary in outcomes and has a data committee working on a set of measures that will be distributed in draft form soon. This should assist with what could be done voluntarily in identifying outcomes. Professor Duderstadt, former President of U of M, sat on the Spellings Commission and agreed to come to MSU to give an insiders view of the Commission.

Provost’s Remarks:
Provost Wilcox commented on a number of activities during his recent trip to China where a permanent office was opened for MSU in Beijing and agreements were signed for two different joint research endeavors with an institution in China. The University also co-sponsored a forum on international distance education and quality assurance during the Provost’s visit.

The Provost reported that the University is looking to expand the College of Osteopathic Medicine to southeast Michigan and are talking with many partners. The Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) will be on campus this week to reaffirm and recommit support for the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory for the next five years. The National Science Foundation holds the MSU Cyclotron as a model for NSF institutional partnership and cooperation.

ECAC Chairperson’s Remarks:
Professor Potchen called attention to the annual reports, by all of the Standing Committees in Governance, attached to the minutes. Everyone is to be congratulated for completing the reports on time. Professor Potchen noted that Faculty Council has had a series of meetings where the Faculty Voice Task Force reports have been discussed and action was taken on Task Forces 2 and 3. The Task Force reports for 4 and 5 are being worked on and should be going to ECAC.

The Task Force 1 report on governance structure is the most complex and the Voice Implementation Committee (VIC) is working on integrating and organizing into recommendations. Professor Potchen urged members to read the Task Force 1 report and to send ideas or recommendations to the VIC chairperson, Harold Hughes.
University Committee on Curriculum Report:
Professor Campbell, Chairperson of UCC, presented the following report to members:

- There were 8 programs reviewed. There were seven program changes and one request for a new program.
- There were 61 courses reviewed and approved. There were 25 new courses, 31 changes in courses and 5 courses were deleted.

A motion was passed to approve the UCC report.

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws for Academic Governance, Section 3.2.1.1.5.:
Professor DeJong, Chairperson of UCAG, presented the following proposed amendment to the Bylaws:

Section 3.2.1.1.5. The Academic Council shall have the following ex officio members: Vice President for Student Affairs and Services; Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies; Vice Provost for Libraries, Computing and Technology; Assistant Provost for University Outreach and Engagement; Senior Associate Provost; Assistant Provost and Assistant Vice President for Academic Human Resources; Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies; Assistant Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School; Assistant Provost for Academic Student Services and Multicultural Issues; Assistant Provost for Academic Services; and University Registrar; Faculty Grievance Official; Secretary for Academic Governance and Ombudsman.

Key: New Text
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Professor DeJong explained that the changes reflect current titles due to restructuring in the Provost’s office. The motion was seconded and passed.

Other Business
No additional items were identified.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Wright
Secretary for Academic Governance

Tapes of complete meetings of the Academic Council are available for review in the office of the Secretary for Academic Governance, 308 Olds Hall, 355-2337.