MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday, April 19, 2005
3:15 p.m., 115 International Center

Present: Provost Hudzik, Abeles, Allen, Ames, Ardanowski, Foster (for Armstrong), Ayoob, Mehretu (for Baba), Baker, Ballard, Behe, Blackburn, Blair, Branta, Bresnahan, Brookes, Christian, Corby, DeRogatis, DeJong, Mazzeo (for Duncan), Ferris, Fisher, Lawton (for Floyd), Wolff (for Fouke), Garnett, Gaynor, Gift, Gossain, Graham, Gray, Hyslop (for Haka), Hammar, Hancock, Harmon, Henry, Hudzik, June, Klomparens, Lacy, Larabee, Leroi, Link, Lu, Maleczka, McConeghy, Melakeberhan, Mittman, Munn, Murphy, Nair, Nicholson, Olson, Patino, Peterson, Pham, Punch, Prasad, Revitte, Freedman (for Riedinger), Rubin, Salmon, Schechter, Schepers, Sickner, Soffin, Stanford, Sticklen, Strampel, Tornag, R. Weber, Wei, Whiteman, Wright, Yansa, Youatt, Zemke


The meeting began at 3:28 p.m. without a full quorum.

President’s Remarks:
Acting Provost Hudzik announced that President Simon was in Washington, DC attending the annual meeting of AAU Presidents. This is a particularly significant meeting since there are several pieces of federal legislation pending and it is important to have MSU’s views known. President Simon requested Acting Provost Hudzik to provide a correction to an implication in a State News story this week regarding the President’s statement about the disorders a few weeks ago. The implication that could have been drawn was that this was the first time she had spoken on the issues and that is far from the case. The President’s statement made this week was consistent to her response when she arrived in East Lansing upon arrival home from the Carolina game. Vice-President Denbow has been spokesperson for the University as well as for the President and has reiterated the President’s views consistently. The President’s views have been expressed clearly and consistently in meetings with students, police and others. President Simon repeated the major portions of the statement that appeared this week at last week’s Faculty Council meeting and she also gave a long statement on these issues to the Board of Trustees last week in public session. The President wanted to be sure that the misperception of whether intended or not was corrected.
Commentary and Discussion on Committee on College Reorganization:
Acting Provost Hudzik noted that at the last Faculty Council meeting a summary was presented on the status of various reorganization issues and outlined the issues that remained on the table, issues off the table, and issues of continuing discussion. Acting Provost Hudzik invited comment at that time and has received few comments. This continues as a work in progress and there are some updates and continuing progress. A formal request has been received from the School of Music to achieve some sort of administrative independent status. The proposal is being examined and work will continue through the summer. There will be no formal action until Fall when the proposal will be brought before governance for consultation. There are several update items similar to the one mentioned so the Provost web site will be updated regularly with the latest information.

A quorum was reached at this point in the meeting, 3:35 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:
The agenda was approved as distributed with the full quorum.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of March 22, 2005 were approved as distributed.

Acting Provost’s Remarks:
Acting Provost Hudzik reported that a special meeting of the finance group of the Board of Trustees met last week to begin the discussions on next year’s budget. The process is running by design much later this year than normal in part due to the uncertainty of actions by the State. It is doubtful that a clear idea of the State budget will come before July 1, 2005 and many speculate we may not have a State budget until some time in August, 2005. Hudzik noted that it is also clear that what the State does will have implications for what MSU does with respect to tuition and budget adjustments in academic and support units on campus. With so little information from the State, we are in a planning mode and trying to identify parameters around possible actions and considering alternatives. Acting Provost Hudzik underscored that options are being considered and that no decisions have been made at this time.

The constraints and parameters that are guiding the planning include:

- Over the last four years the base budgets have taken a cumulative 16% reduction. This has to be factored into our thinking.
- State budget considerations and the unintended consequences of long term tuition guarantee the University has deferred several very essential expenditures which now have to be done.
- There is an estimate that as an institution there is about $100 to $130 million dollars annually behind in recurring base allocations that should be made. This is about 15% to 20% of operating base.
• The State of Michigan has not provided an appropriation related to infrastructure renewal and repair for many years. The University has had to meet these requirements out of General Operating Reserves and Revenue. This year the State took action to provide MSU a one time $20 million dollar allocation to begin work on the deferred and ongoing maintenance issues. It has been calculated that $100 to $130 million dollars a year is needed on a recurring basis for a set of issues. If maintenance is pulled out, $40 million dollars is needed annually for recurring needs.

Acting Provost Hudzik noted it is important not to ignore some of the fundamentals of budget planning as we begin to think about budget objectives for this year. Budget planning at the University has assumed that a break even budget carried from one fiscal year to the next would require on average a 3% increase in operating revenues. The two principle sources of operating revenues for the University are appropriations from the State and tuition. Another issue that we need to plan for includes the executive order from the Governor’s office which calls for a reduction of the current University’s budget by 1.9% and it appears certain that this will become a base budget reduction for next year. Acting Provost Hudzik noted that very few believe that the State of Michigan will be a source of new funds for the next several years. If the State appropriation begins next year with a 1.9% plus 0% increase to the new reduced base, we will be behind 1.9% plus 3% in terms of what is needed to carry the budget forward. There are also some unavoidable operating costs that are above the 3% inflation figure, such as health care costs and energy costs. Acting Provost Hudzik indicated that the University, the President and he are all committed to do whatever they can to improve student access to high quality education. This means more faculty, more options and choices for students, more mentoring and direct contact for students with senior faculty and more active learning opportunities. Acting Provost Hudzik noted the institution is committed to increasing financial aid, at least proportionate, to the increase in tuition and fee cost to students. It is also recognized that there are additional instructional costs with more students (300 to 500) than the planning target so there will be additional sections. There is a commitment to add new recurring funds to instructional quality enhancement for both undergraduate and graduate students.

A preliminary meeting was held last week with the Board of Trustees on budget issues and there will be continuing dialogue with the Board of Trustees in May. It is anticipated that there will be no action by the Board of Trustees before the June Board meeting. It is important for the University to be thinking about multiple revenue streams and the enhancements of multiple revenue streams. The President’s work has been extraordinary in getting the importance of investing in higher education connected to the future of this State. This is our opportunity to reverse the 30 to 40 years of State disinvestment in higher education according to the Acting Provost. Cost control remains important and an obligation. The reallocation of 1% of the unit’s base budgets will continue. University based enterprises will take increased importance in the budget life of the University for example, the Health Team as a revenue center, more fee for service activities and patent income. The Capital Campaign has done well in raising cash but less well in raising endowment. Endowment is essential for quality and for stability, especially
to manage through the peaks and valleys of State appropriations. Enrollments are also a source of revenue, however, this is not viewed as a way to solve the budget problem. MSU has one of the lowest percentages of out-of-state students among the CIC institutions. Having a greater diversity in the student population is a quality issue and a financial issue. One hundred out-of-state students would yield one million dollars. Acting Provost Hudzik noted that the budget problems will continue to be addressed, to reduce as much as possible any base budget reductions to units, to deal with issues of tuition and fees to students as best as possible and to move the institution forward on issues of academic quality.

Executive Committee Vice Chairperson’s Remarks:
Professor Sticklen reminded members of the Academic Senate meeting on April 26, 2005. He also congratulated the new at-large faculty members elected to ECAC. Professor Sticklen thanked the Council members for their participation and work this year.

University Committee on Curriculum Report:
Professor Schechter, Chairperson, presented the UCC report and highlighted the following:

  Recommendation for five new programs:

  - A graduate Specialization in Ethics and Development in the Department of Philosophy, effective Fall 2006
  - An undergraduate Specialization in Game Design and Development offered by the Department of Telecommunications, effective Fall, 2005.
  - A Bachelor of Science degree in Geographic Information Science by the Department of Geography, effective Fall 2005.
  - A Master of International Planning Studies by the School of Planning, Design and Construction, effective Fall 2005.
  - A Master of Public Policy by the Department of Political Science, effective Fall 2005.

  There were an additional 7 programs with changes, 33 new courses and 49 courses with changes.

A motion was passed to accept the Report.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments to 3.2.1.1.2. and 3.2.5.5.1.:
Professor Larabee, Chairperson of UCAG, presented amendments to 3.2.1.1.2. and 3.2.5.5.1., previously distributed to members. The amendments bring into line the titles in the Bylaws with revised titles in the University. A motion was passed to approve the amendments.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments re: Graduate and Graduate Professional Programs:
Professor Larabee, Chairperson of UCAG, presented amendments regarding graduate and graduate professional programs. Currently the UGC is responsible for many issues of the
graduate programs and the UCAP is responsible for the graduate professional programs. This practice is not what is common in other universities like MSU. UCAG sent proposed amendments to UCAP and UGC for review and both approved. The proposed amendments: 4.4.3., 4.4.4., 4.4.5., 4.8.1., 4.8.3., 4.8.4., 4.8.5., 4.8.6., 4.8.7., 4.8.8. were distributed to all Council members. A motion passed to approve the amendments.

**Proposed Bylaw Additions re: UCAP Ex-Officio Faculty Member to Athletic Council:**
Professor Larabee, Chairperson of UCAG, presented a proposed addition to the *Bylaws*:

4.4.1.1. Each year UCAP shall appoint one of its faculty members to serve as an ex-officio member on Athletic Council.

5.2.3.1.1. The UCAP shall appoint one of its faculty members to serve as an ex-officio member on Athletic Council. A motion was passed approving the additions to the *Bylaws*.

**Proposed Amendments to the Code of Teaching Responsibility:**
Professor Behe, member of UCAP, presented the proposed amendments to the Code of Teaching Responsibility and moved endorsement. The Code of Teaching Responsibility currently has no requirement for a syllabus which is addressed in the amendments. Some questions were raised in regard to the section on Student Assessment and Final Grades determining that “except in extenuating circumstances” be removed as it is already an implicit understanding. Following some further clarifications and discussion the amendments to the main motion passed. A motion passed approving the amended proposal to the Code of Teaching Responsibility.

**Proposed Resolution Acknowledging Participation on Numerous Working Groups:**
Professor Sticklen presented a motion recognizing the creative effort and time expended by all of the working groups this past year and thanked them on behalf of the Academic Council. The motion was passed. Acting Provost Hudzik also spoke recognizing the faculty.

**The Report of the NRC/S Curriculum Team:**
Acting Provost Hudzik requested permission for Professor Esquith to address the Council and permission was granted. Professor Esquith referred members to the distributed document entitled New Residential College/School Curriculum Team Report 2. The charge was given to the curriculum team on January 27, 2005 to develop a curricular framework for the New Residential College/School and to clarify the mission, describing in more detail and present courses that would be possibly offered. Acting Provost Hudzik requested the team complete the work by the beginning of April. The report by the Curriculum Team delivered the report to Acting Provost Hudzik on April 1, 2005. The report was also sent to UCC, Deans and Chairpersons in Social Science, Natural Science, Arts and Letters Colleges and Deans in other relevant Colleges. The UCC considered the report at their meeting on April 7, 2005 and offered some suggestions. The UCC suggestions were incorporated in the revision of the report, now revised Report #2 which was circulated to Council members.
Acting Provost Hudzik noted that there were some concerns expressed by people as to whether or not this committee could actually complete the work on time. The committee not only completed on time but did a high quality job in examining the issues and questions providing a platform for moving forward to the next stages of deliberation. The Chairperson of the Curriculum Team and all the members should be congratulated.

**Interim Report from the Working Group to Improve Undergraduate Education:**
Professor Graham reported for Professor Allen, Chairperson of the Working Group to Improve Undergraduate Education. Professor Graham indicated the group had met once and provided members with a summary which was also distributed. The Committee will continue the work over the summer.

**Executive Committee of Academic Council At-Large Election Results:**
Professor Wright, Secretary for Academic Governance, reported the election results for the three At-Large Faculty vacancies on the Executive Committee of Academic Council. Ballots were mailed to 2002 faculty members and 405 ballots were returned. The three faculty members elected were:

- Judith Andre, Colleges of Human Medicine/Arts & Letters
- Norman Abeles, College of Social Science
- E. James Potchen, Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine and Human Medicine

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:47 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.