EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL

MINUTES

January 9, 2007


Absent: Hughes, Lappan

Professor Potchen called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. with a quorum being present.

The agenda was approved as distributed.

The minutes for November 7, 2006 were approved as distributed.

Provost’s Remarks:
Provost Wilcox reflected he had been at MSU for one and a half years and what has been done. The Provost distributed interview itineraries for the various open positions for Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies and the Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Human Resources. The candidates for these positions are internal. The Provost encouraged faculty to attend the open forums.

The search for the Associate Provost for Human Health Affairs is an external search and is underway. There are three more candidates coming in January. A search for the Dean of the Honors College is commencing and the position will be posted. The College of Natural Science Dean search is well underway and the plan is to have candidates on campus early in this semester. The Director of Admissions search is commencing now. The search for the Faculty Conflict of Interest Information Officer will begin soon. The University Integrity Officer, James Pivarnik, has been appointed.

Chairperson’s Remarks:
Professor Potchen indicated that governance has much to do this semester and hopes to move the Voice Implementation Committee (VIC) report and complete most of the Task Force (2, 3, 4 and 5) recommendations forward. The VIC is working on Task Force 1 and will soon be coming to ECAC. The issues of the College of Music and the pending change of Lyman Briggs are coming to us in the near future. The College of Music is on today’s agenda. The Provost indicated that a discussion regarding Lyman Briggs will be coming next month. Professor Payne is now the UCFT representative for ECAC. Professor Potchen acknowledged the receipt of the College of Law Bylaws to UCAG for review.

Recommendation for Academic Scholars Program to be made Permanent:
Professor Putnam, Chairperson of UCAP, reported that the committee recommends that the Academic Scholars Program, consistent with Dean Fisher’s request, become a permanent program at MSU. A motion was passed to approve the request and move to Faculty Council.

Deferred Grade Policy, Request for Policy Change:
The University Graduate Council approved a revision to the DF-Deferred Grade Policy. Professor Stanford forwarded the Policy to ECAC for a determination of whether further
consultation within governance is needed. Following some discussion, there were two interpretations of the policy. It was not clear as to the correct interpretation. A motion was passed to refer to UGC for clarification of the time, one year or two years. UGC is to report to the February ECAC meeting.

**Creation of a College of Music – Responses from UCAP, UGC, UCSA, and AA:**
Professor Potchen reported the responses from UCAP, UGC, UCSA and AA have all unanimously endorsed the proposal for creating a College of Music. A motion was passed to send the proposal for the creation of a College of Music to Academic Council for endorsement. If endorsed, the proposal will then go to the Board of Trustees.

**Voice Implementation Committee (VIC) Update:**
Professor Weber, member of VIC, reported on the progress:
- Task Force 5 (Fixed Term Faculty) recommendations have been sent to UCAG to develop proposed amendments to the Bylaws.
- Task Force 4 (Communication and Transparency) Professor Hembroff from IPPSR has been consulted and asked to review the recommendations and come to ECAC with ideas and suggestions to consider.
- Task Force 3 (Program Review) The President addressed Faculty Council and identified several issues. These issues have been addressed.
- Task Force 2 (Administrator Review) The President identified a number of issues related to the recommendations in Faculty Council. Professor Potchen is to consult with the President for clarification. Professor Youatt, Provost Wilcox and Professor Potchen will meet to discuss.
- Task Force 1 (Organization Structure) The committee is preparing materials that compare the proposed recommendations to what exits in the current governance structure for Faculty Council. The materials will be sent prior to the scheduled meeting so everyone can be informed. Members have done an analysis of the issues looking at how they might be implemented. There has been discussion of how the current system could be changed to incorporate some of the ideas of Task Force 1. VIC anticipates the recommendations for Task Force Groups 2, 3, 4, and 5 could be completed by the end of Spring Semester.

**Review of Possible Candidates for the Michigan Distinguished Professor of the Year Recognition Program:**
Professor Wright reported that Professor Banks requested ECAC to review the list of Distinguished Faculty Awards from 2004 to 2007 to identify possible candidates for the Michigan Distinguished Professor of the Year Recognition Program. These candidates should have a primary focus in undergraduate education. The news reporters were asked to leave for this selection process. Following some discussion, a motion was passed to identify an ad hoc committee to thoroughly review the possible candidates and select the best candidate. The committee will report at the next ECAC meeting. The ad hoc committee includes Eric Hinojosa, Matt Caramagno, Professors’ Putnam, De Jong and Youatt.

**Representation of Non-Minority Women, Minorities and Faculty with Disabilities On University-level Governance Groups:**
Professor Potchen reported on the report received from the Provost on the Representation of Non-Minority Women, Minorities and Faculty with Disabilities on University-level Governance
Groups. There is a regular process of consultation with Deans regarding progress in diversity and there is a similar review for faculty governance. The Provost summarized the findings and noted that the University is diligent about reviewing representation of faculty across the campus.

**Other Business:**
Professor Potchen reported on a letter received regarding two issues. The first issue related to a lack of a policy for student illness and opportunity to make up the work. The second issue related to the way grievances are handled when there is a problem with a professor. Following discussion, a motion was made to refer to ASMSU.

**UCFA:**
Professor Powell, Chairperson of UCFA reported on the Task Force on Health Care, which is gathering information and looking at ways to improve the health care. Three consultants are coming to MSU and there will be a Forum on January 17 with Professor Feldman from the University of Minnesota. A second forum will be held on February 15 with Professor Ginsberg from Washington, DC. The Task Force is formulating recommendations to bring to Governance next Fall. The Budget Subcommittee is dealing with input from Caremark.

**Setting of Faculty Council Agenda for January, 2007:**
There was no Faculty Council meeting scheduled for January.

**Setting of Academic Council Agenda for January 23, 2007:**
The agenda for the Academic Council meeting scheduled for January 23, 2007 is as follows:

- University Committee on Curriculum Report – Action Item
- Creation of a College of Music – Action Item
- Voice Implementation Committee (VIC) Status Report – Information Item
- Other Business

A motion was passed to approve the agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Wright
Secretary for Academic Governance