Proposed Special Rule for Emeriti Faculty Representation on Faculty Council and Academic Council:
Professor Potchen proposed, as done last year, a motion for a special rule to add an emeriti faculty representative to Faculty Council and Academic Council as ex officio member with voice and no vote through 8-15-08. **The motion was passed.**

Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Authors’ Rights Statement and Addendum:
Professor Potchen read a statement from the CIC on authors’ rights. Provost Wilcox indicated that this document had been reviewed by faculty governance systems on many campuses and has been discussed and endorsed by the CIC Provost group. The Provost noted that this proposal simply suggests that we as a faculty move toward a model where individual authors would work to assure the maintenance of their own copyrights. This is not a requirement but rather a model and recommendation the Provost would like to encourage and asked the body to endorse. **A motion passed to endorse the policy and template.**

To establish a Rules Committee of three faculty, with the Secretary for Academic Governance as an ex officio member, each year to review and recommend changes when necessary or as directed by the Chairperson or body.
Professor Hughes noted the committee’s charge focuses on the rules of procedure for Faculty Council meetings and deliberations. The committee will evaluate procedural rules and/or make recommendations regarding procedural rules as may be required by actions of the Council. There was some discussion related to **Roberts Rules of Order** and there was clarification that the University Bylaws direct the use of **Roberts Rules** for all governance meetings. **The motion to establish a Rules Committee was passed.**

Report from Faculty Council Civility Task Force Committee:
Professor Potchen reported the committee was derived from tension last year and some disgruntled individuals and organizations that caused some adverse effects. Professor Potchen asked for permission to give Professor Dick Weber voice as chairperson of the Task Force to report on the findings of the group. Voice was granted. Professor Weber reported meeting with Provost Wilcox and Associate Provost Youatt to discuss the original charge. There appeared to be some civility issues in the classroom based on reports from Professor Soffin, Ombudsman. Following discussions with Professor Soffin, the committee made several recommendations as identified in the report distributed to Council members. There appears to be mechanisms in place to respond to disruptive situations and it was the sense of the committee that there was no need for urgent action. The report was an information item so no specific action was taken.

Academic Program Review:
The Provost reported that one of the recommendations of the Faculty Voice Task Force III, Program Review, was the creation of a system for regular program review. This recommendation was reviewed and discussed last year by Academic and Faculty Councils and a recommendation was made to the Provost to implement the plan. Provost Wilcox presented a summary of the implementation process for completing and implementing the recommendation which was distributed to members. The plan conforms to the recommendations with a couple of
changes. The plan suggests all academic units on campus will be reviewed at least once every 7 years. The recommendations called for only units that were departments and not units having regular accreditation. This plan goes beyond and includes all units. The recommendations suggested each review would include an external review. The plan calls for each review to begin with an intense unit self-study during the Fall Semester and at the end of this process include a discussion about the need for an external review between the Unit, Dean(s) and the Provost Office. The plan also includes a posting on the web of the schedule for Academic Program Review for the next several years. The schedule will be worked out and aligned with Accreditation time. The Faculty Council did endorse the recommendations last year.

**Motions and Amendments According to Robert’s Rules of Order:**
Professor Wright, Secretary for Academic Governance, presented an overview on motions and amendments according to Robert’s Rules of Order and distributed to members.

**CIC Faculty Leadership Conference**
Professor Hughes, ECAC member, reported on the CIC Faculty Leadership Conference attended by Professors Powell and Hughes. The conference was hosted by the University of Iowa, November 3 & 4, 2007. Professor Hughes summarized the highlights of the meeting and the full report is on the Governance web site.

**Faculty Opinion Survey Report (Task Force 4):**
The Faculty Opinion Survey was an outcome of the Faculty Voice Task Force 4 Recommendations. An overview of the Faculty Opinion Survey was presented. The Survey response rate was 30.2% and showed that the faculty were generally satisfied with the amount of information they receive on matters of academic governance. The most preferred method of communication was email. Most respondents read governance reports and /or meeting minutes, while fewer than half attend meetings. The Survey is to be posted on the Governance web site. A motion was passed to direct ECAC to establish a subcommittee of Faculty Council, with the approval of Council, to develop concrete recommendations for implementing the findings in the survey.

**Request to Change Minimum Number of Credits in a Minor**
The current guideline for the minimum number of credits is ambiguous and the requested change eliminates the confusion and is consistent with guidelines for minors at other universities. A motion passed to change the minimum number of credits required for a minor to 15.

**Proposal to Split the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain Management**
The College of Business requested the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain Management (MSC) be split into two separate departments. Dean Duncan, Eli Broad College of Business, noted the proposed split of the Department emerged from the strategic planning process. This split will not have any impact on the faculty but will provide more opportunity for focus and innovation in the program. The action was supported by the College Advisory Committee and faculty. The restructuring of the MSC Department will strengthen and enhance the national reputation of the Marketing group. **This is a recommendation to the Provost who will make a recommendation to the President, who in turn will recommend to the Board of Trustees.**
**Revised University Mission Statement:**

The University Mission Statement was last approved in the early 1980’s and was about three pages in length. This was one of the longest Mission Statements in any University. The North Central Accreditation Team noted this when on campus and one of a few recommendations was to review the current Mission Statement and consider revision that was more succinct. The Provost’s Office drafted a revision and shared the draft with the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees endorsed the draft Mission Statement and asked that this draft be taken to Academic Governance for consultation. The result of the consultation will then go back to the Board of Trustees for their review and final decision. A number of committees reviewed and offered changes to the original draft. The Provost asked members for an endorsement of the Mission Statement distributed. Some minor changes were made and a motion passed to endorse the amended version of the Mission Statement.

**UCFA Task Force Report on Health Care, Concerns, Policies and Future Options**

The work of the UCFA Task Force was presented as an information item and posted on the UCFA website for comments. There were two open forums for faculty input, and the tapes from those sessions were put on the web site. The Task Force was dissolved on final completion of the Report. UCFA proposed a resolution (See Governance web site). A motion to adopt the resolution was passed. In the resolution UCFA recommended establishing a task force to work with its Budget Subcommittee and to participate with the MSU administration and the MSU Human Resource Program in developing recommendations, policies, procedures and programs that improve the health of MSU faculty, maintain and improve quality health care services and address the issue of cost containment on behalf of the MSU faculty.

**Change in Academic Year Start Date:**

Provost Wilcox noted the five day week before classes began appeared to be a long time before students went into a classroom. This time was set in an era before computers and the ability to do things online. The University is now more automated and there are less activities to achieve during this five day period and administrative tasks have been replaced by programming for students. Provost Wilcox expressed there may be value in moving to a time frame that makes sense for the administrative tasks and helping the students transitioning into class sooner. The Provost proposed that beginning in the Fall 2009, the University move to the model where freshmen students move into the residence halls on Sunday and other students on Monday, which gives students two days before classes begin on Monday. More and more students are enrolling on line before coming to campus. The Provost explained the rationale for the change was for the health and welfare of the students and noted the significant numbers of students that are arrested and those that end up in the hospital, primarily for drinking. This change would move MSU from 146 to 144 instructional days. Currently MSU exceeds every university in the State and most in the Big Ten. The UCAP will be taking up the issue.
Proposed Bylaw Amendment for Section 4.9.1:
The following motion to amend Bylaw 4.9.1., regarding the UCSA’s membership specifications, was passed.

4.9.1. The committee on Student Affairs shall have four faculty members selected by the Faculty Council. The committee shall have seven student members appointed as follows: Three ASMSU Student Assembly appointees, including the Chairperson of the ASMSU Student Assembly, or a designee; two COGS appointees; and two ASMSU Academic Assembly appointees. Committee appointees are expected to reflect the diversity of their constituencies. The Vice President for Student Affairs and Services, or a designee, and the University Ombudsman, shall be members with voice, but no vote.

Student Faculty Commission on Civility:
The Provost noted that last year the Faculty Council formed a task force to look at the issue of civility on campus, and reported back this past Fall indicating the MSU campus was not a campus of incivility. The Provost requested the Women’s Advisory Committee to the Provost to look at the issue of civility as it related to recruitment and retention of women faculty and graduate students. The Report by the Women’s Advisory Committee noted the campus in total was civil but that there are many events on campus that would be described as not civil. The Provost noted the University lacks a statement from faculty and students. The Provost requested ECAC to seat a Commission of at least four faculty and four students who will be charged with creating a joint statement on the importance of civility on our campus. The Provost is asking the Faculty-Student Commission for a joint statement to be written in such a way that it can be endorsed at all levels of academic governance, faculty, and students. The statement to be is developed by the Commission will come to Faculty Council.

Environmental Stewardship
The Environmental Stewardship Systems Team Phase 1 Recommendations came out January 17, 2008. In the Executive Summary there are a series of issues raised and how to address them. The Systems Team was made up of one third faculty researchers so the findings were well grounded. A monitoring system is being developed and one of the areas is to develop a way so that units could see what their energy consumption is over a period of time. This would be a way of developing accountability. No one is talking about charging units for their energy consumption. Eventually, we will need faculty groups to look at the specific recommendations. The University is doing many of the mechanical things to alter the energy consumption but we are not doing anything to modify faculty behavior. This was an information item.

Compensation vs. Salary – Big Ten Analysis:
Material was distributed on 2006-07 Faculty Salary Averages and Compensation Averages in the Big Ten. The Averages only reflect the ranked faculty in the University, and the Medical School faculty are not included. MSU ranked 9th among the universities in salary averages and the goal of UCFA is to move MSU’s ranking to 6th or 7th position. The question is how do we move forward with the constant reduction in State funding? MSU is ranked 5th when considering compensation averages. If the current retirement package was removed, MSU would drop to 9th place on the ranking. MSU is the only institution in the Big Ten that has a total commitment to retirees for their health care. There are issues that face MSU in terms of recruiting faculty, retaining faculty and keeping us on a tract that is needed, as well as, considering what the long term health of the institution is regarding
the post retirement benefits. It was suggested that an issue we should consider would be to support new hires with increase co pay as opposed to post retirement benefits. UCFA has been discussing this issue with Human Resources. There was a motion to consider the idea of an additional standing committee to address the issues raised. The motion failed.

Faculty Salary Recommendation Report for 2008-09:
UCFA presented the Faculty Salary Recommendation for 2008-09. The UCFA reported reviewing salaries for all ranks when comparing with other universities. A motion to change the item to an action item in an advisory mode was passed. A motion was passed by Faculty Council to support the Report.

Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) – Final Report by Panel on Recommendations
COIA published a white paper entitled “Framing the Future: Reforming Intercollegiate Athletics” in May, 2007. The ECAC formed an ad hoc task force to review the COIA recommendations in terms of MSU Athletics. The Task Force presented their report in April and noted overall MSU was in substantial compliance with the CCOIA institutional level recommendations. The Task Force pointed out that the communication lines between the Athletic Council and the UCAP should be strengthened to increase faculty understanding and participation. They found that some of the COIA recommendations conflicted with the existing NCAA regulations making it difficult for MSU to comply. The Task Force recommended the Faculty Athletic Representative, like other MSU administrators, should be formally reviewed on a regular basis (5 Years) with participation by the Athletic Council and UCAP. It was suggested the Athletic Department should provide opportunities for meaningful faculty participation and review of draft budget plans. This was an information item.

Faculty Voice Task Force 1 Recommendations - Structure of Academic Governance
Faculty Council discussion and debate occurred throughout the year on the Task Force 1 recommendations. A motion was proposed for each of the three Sections: (1) Proposed Central Bodies, (2) Proposed Committees and (3) Proposed Steering Committee. Each Section was debated, modified and amended and the final motion was referred to as the “Yellow Pages”. Council members then considered the final motion on the Structure of Academic Governance and the motion passed. Faculty Council referred the endorsed recommendations to UCAG to develop proposed amendments for the Bylaws for Academic Governance and bring to Council in January 2009.