March 30, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO:        E. James Potchen  
           Chair, Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC)

FROM:      Ralph Putnam  
           Chair, University Committee on Academic Policy (UCAP)

RE:        Lyman Briggs School of Science to Return to College Status

At its 15 March 2007 and 29 March 2007 meetings, UCAP discussed the proposal to return Lyman Briggs School of Science to college status. Elizabeth Simmons, Director of Lyman Briggs, and colleagues presented arguments for the return to college status and discussed questions raised by UCAP members.

UCAP members voted unanimously to endorse the proposal for the return of Lyman Briggs to College status. The committee endorses the proposal, in part, because it would serve to enhance the already strong contribution Lyman-Briggs makes to promoting liberal learning. In addition, UCAP agreed that it would advance opportunities for collaboration with JMU and RCAH.

In our discussion UCAP members raised some more general issues to be considered as the Lyman Briggs proposal moves forward and for future consideration of such proposals:

1. It is important to be aware of the need to balance the development of a sense of learning community among the students in a residential college or program with that of fostering a sense of identity outside the residential program, building relationships with the diverse student population across the entire campus community.

2. As the Lyman Briggs proposal moves forward through academic governance it would useful to include additional information about the economic impact of the proposal. Questions about economic impact were well addressed by Lyman Briggs representatives in our UCAP discussions; some members thought these issues would likely be raised again as the proposal moves forward to Faculty Council and Academic Assembly.

CC:        Julie Harrison  
           Elizabeth Simmons
March 13, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. E. James Potchen, Chair
    Executive Committee of Academic Council

FROM: Dr. Catherine Ernst, Co-Chair
      Dr. John Powell, Co-Chair

SUBJECT: Lyman Briggs School of Science Return to College Status

The University Committee on Faculty Affairs (UCFA) has reviewed the proposal for Lyman Briggs School of Science to be re-instated as a college. During their March 13 meeting, under:

New Business:
  ➢ Request for Consultation: Lyman Briggs School of Science to Return to College Status - Professor Johnson made a motion that UCFA support this proposal, supported by Dr. Schenck. The motion carried.