DATE: June 13, 2008

TO: University Faculty

FROM: University Committee on Faculty Affairs
John Powell, Chair

RE: University Committee on Faculty Affairs (UCFA) Year-End Report

The UCFA provides the following report of activities in order to provide the faculty with information regarding the work of the Committee.

In the AY 2007-2008, the UCFA actions focused on the following areas:

1. Approved Personnel Subcommittee’s recommendations regarding Task Force II - Administrator Review program and forwarded its recommendation to ECAC, FC and AC.

2. Endorsed the recommended list of presiding officers for faculty grievances for 2007-2008

3. Approved and forwarded recommendations regarding the Proposal to Establish a Fall Semester Study Break to ECAC.

4. Approved and forwarded the report of the Health Care Options Task Force to Academic Governance

5. Approved and implemented the survey used in the annual review of the Faculty Grievance Office.

6. Conducted annual review of the Faculty Grievance Officer and forwarded recommendation to the Office of the Provost.

7. Reviewed and approved additions to the University Occupational Health and Safety Rules and Regulations;


9. Approved recommended additions to the Appointment, Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion Recommendations letter sent annually by the Provost to Chairs and Directors.

10. Approved and forwarded to the Office of the Provost recommendations regarding the opportunities for faculty to obtain tuition waivers for when registering for MSU courses.
11. Approved the seating of an ad hoc committee regarding health care issues. This committee will report directly to the Budget Subcommittee regarding its operation and recommendations.


The following is a list of selected issues UCFA Personnel Subcommittee has on its agenda for AY 2008-2009

- Continue a review of University faculty policies begun in Spring 2007;
- Consider the question of criminal background checks for new faculty hires;
- Consider the question of the Faculty Grievance Officer and accessibility to records (clarification of Section 223 of the Faculty Grievance Policy);
- Undertake a broader review of the Faculty Grievance Policy and User Guide.
- Continue consideration of the religious holiday policies regarding faculty

The following is a list of selected issues UCFA Budget Subcommittee has on its agenda for AY 2008-2009

- Monitor the progress of the ad hoc committee on health care options.
- Review of guidelines of the general fund budget requires for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.
- Continue to evaluate the financial aspects of the proposal for a mid fall semester study break.
- Continue to work with the Office of the Provost regarding the program for faculty tuition waivers.
- Review campus sustainability issues, e.g., recycling, energy and health care and their impact on University budgets.
- Continue reviewing the progress of the administrative software upgrade with David Gift, Vice Provost, Lib/Comp/Tech
- Review facilities planning programs and their impact on budgeting.
- Prepare recommendations for salary/benefits packages for the faculty in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.