

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

March 15, 2012

Dr. John Powell  
Chairperson, The Steering Committee  
Michigan State University

Dear John,

The University Committee on Undergraduate Studies (UCUS) invited Jennifer Battle of the Energy Transition Planning Committee to its meeting of March 15, 2012. UCUS members had access to the MSU Energy Transition Plan prior to the meeting.

Ms. Battle briefly explained the rationale behind key aspects of the plan, focusing on impact on and opportunities for undergraduate students. A key constraint was that the plan could not be financed by an increase in tuition. To achieve this, it focuses on avoiding wasteful energy practices and improving energy efficiency. Another important component is becoming an educational leader in sustainable energy. She noted that achieving this latter goal would provide valuable opportunities for student participation in faculty research and student engagement.



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Ms. Battle noted that President Simon would welcome comments from individual faculty.

No member of UCUS expressed opposition to the plan although a concern was raised that any energy plan be cost effective in the energy market and technically efficient in energy production. Committee members were impressed with the thoughtful approach and satisfied that the interests of undergraduate students were receiving appropriate consideration. Many of the questions focused on the next steps in operationalizing the strategic plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura K. Dillon".

Laura K. Dillon  
Professor, Computer Science and Engineering  
Chair, University Committee on Undergraduate Studies

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