ACADEMIC COUNCIL

REVISED DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008
3:15 p.m., 115 International Center


The meeting began at 3:31 p.m. with a full quorum present.

Approval of Agenda:
The agenda was approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of October 23, 2007 were approved as distributed.

Provost’s Remarks:
Provost Wilcox announced that the President was in Washington, DC, and sends her regrets for missing the meeting. The Provost highlighted a Multi Seminar session scheduled for Deans, Directors and Chairs, next Tuesday, on Diversity and Quality at MSU in a Post-Prop 2 Environment.
ECAC Chairperson’s Remarks:
Professor Potchen noted that a Faculty Council meeting would be held immediately following the Academic Council meeting today. It is the intent to continue to work on the Task Force 1 report, with the goal of completing by April.

University Committee on Curriculum Report:
Professor Bice, Chairperson of UCC, presented the following UCC report to members:
There were 12 programs and 219 course proposals approved which included:
- Overall there were 11 new program proposals and 62 courses approved
- A new undergraduate Specialization in Entrepreneurship
- There were nine (9) program changes, including changing the jazz studies option to a jazz studies minor
- One (1) program deletion
- There were 36 new courses, 12 course changes and 14 course deletions.

A motion was passed to approve the UCC report.

Request to Change Minimum Number of Credits in a Minor:
Professor Bice, Chairperson of UCC, presented a motion to change the minimum number of credits required for a minor to 15. The current guideline is ambiguous and the requested change eliminates the confusion and is consistent with guidelines for minors at other major universities. The motion was passed.

Proposal to Split the Department of Marketing and Supply Chain Management:
Provost Wilcox noted that there has been one Department of Marketing and Supply Chain Management in the Eli Broad College of Business. The College has requested the Department be split into two separate departments, the Marketing Department and the Supply Chain Management Department. The restructuring of the MSC Department into two separate departments is strongly favored by the Marketing faculty and is accommodated by the SCM faculty in order to strengthen and enhance the national reputation of the Marketing Group.
Dean Duncan, Eli Broad College of Business, noted the proposed split of the Department emerged from the strategic planning process. He also pointed out that in Business Schools the Marketing Departments are stand alone departments. This split will not have any impact on the faculty but will provide more opportunity for focus and innovation in the programs. The action was supported by the College Advisory Committee and faculty. A motion was passed in favor of this administrative change. 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 Provost explained that the University has had a Mission Statement, last approved in the early 1980’s, and is about three pages in length. This is perhaps 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 to be 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 have reviewed and offered changes to the original draft. The Provost asked members for an endorsement of the Mission Statement distributed. Professor Sticklen offered a proposed motion from the University Committee on Liberal Learning and the motion was supported. During discussion the following changes were made: the word *prestigious* in the first sentence was deleted. The words *open and, caring and known for our,* was stricken from the second sentence. The last bullet “promoting the principles of liberal learning across undergraduate teaching, research and engagement” was stricken. A motion passed to endorse the amended version of the Mission Statement. (See attached revision).

**UCFA Task Force Report on Health Care, Concerns, Policies and Future Options:**
Professor Powell, Chairperson of UCFA, reported on the work of UCFA regarding Health Care, Concerns, Policies and Future Options. The Task Force completed a Preliminary Report which is available on the UCFA website. Professor Powell reinforced that UCFA is not trying to decrease health care benefits to the faculty at MSU. UCFA began this work a year and a half ago to evaluate options for reducing health care costs and improving or maintaining health. The report describes the current situation and documents the Task Force findings and recommendations. The Task Force argues that MSU must provide leadership in promoting excellence and innovation in the health care arena. Professor Powell urged members to read the report and send comments to UCFA. He also announced that the second forum to discuss the Report with the Task Force members would be held January 31, 2008, at 10:30 am, in the Auditorium of the Radiology building. Provost Wilcox acknowledged the leadership in the work of UCFA.

**Resolution of Appreciation for Julie Harrison:**
Professor Potchen requested that Professor Wright present a Resolution of Appreciation to Julie Harrison. This appreciation is for her contributions and dedicated work of 28 years in the Academic Governance Office. The proposed Resolution was read and members overwhelmingly passed the Resolution.

**Other Business**
No additional items were identified.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Wright
Secretary for Academic Governance