Present: Provost Wilcox, Abeles, Allen, Schwille (for Ames), Anderson, Andre, Arch, Foster (for Armstrong), Mehretu (for Baba), Ballard, Banks, Barnhizer, Bertrand, Bieler, Borcila, Brown, Catrine, Corby, DeJong, Mazzeo (for Duncan), Emmett, Ferris, Fisher, Floyd, Fortus, Garcia, Geist, Gift, Gold, Hyslop (for Haka), Hernandez, Hoekstra, Hovey, Hughes, June, Klomparens, Kravchenko, Lacy, Leahy, Link, Ludy, Martin, B., Martin, K., McAlpine, McConeghy, McCormick, Melakeberhan, Moch, Munn, Murphy, Newhouse, Olson, Peterson, Pocock, Potchen, Prasad, Putnam, Revitte, Riedinger, Rodriguez, Rosser, Davenport (for Salmon), Schechter, Schepers, Selanders, Smith, Soffin, Solomon, Sonntag, Stanford, Stockman, Wolff (for Udpa), Weber, Weich, Wright, Youatt  76


The meeting began at 3:15 p.m. with a full quorum present.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of September 27, 2005 were approved as amended. Eric Hinojosa was present.

President’s Remarks: President Simon was at the Capitol in a legislative meeting.

Provost’s Remarks: Provost Wilcox noted he had been at MSU for three months and thanked the University community for the warm and generous welcome that he has received. The Provost described his experiences like drinking from a fire hose, there is more information coming than can be swallowed but people have turned the pressure down and held him up. The Provost is considering developing an acronym guide for campus. The Provost
commented on the fact that it was gratifying as an alumni to come back to the campus in the sesquicentennial year which has provided many activities for participation.

Provost Wilcox reported on the process for the Enhancement of Academic Program Quality on campus. There were 118 proposals received for use of the $9.7 million dollars targeted by the Board of Trustees for enhancement of academic quality. The proposal requests totaled approximately $74 million dollars. The proposals are now being reviewed and it is anticipated the reviews will conclude by the first of November with an announcement of the decisions. The proposals represent the breadth of interests in education and research on campus.

The Provost announced a request for names for participation in President Simon’s strategic planning process, the Boldness by Design Initiative. He had delayed sending the request until the Faculty Voice Task Force Groups were finalized. Faculty were encouraged to respond to the Provost’s request.

ECAC Vice Chairperson’s Remarks:
Professor Abeles, Vice-Chairperson of ECAC, called members attention to the annual reports of the Standing Committees attached to the minutes. He had no further comments.

University Committee on Curriculum Report for 10/25/05:
Professor Schechter, Chairperson of UCC, presented the UCC Report, highlighting the following:

- There were two new programs approved: a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Retailing, effective Spring 2006 and a Bachelor of Science degree in Global and Area Studies, effective Fall 2006.
- There were changes in 18 programs, 18 new courses and changes in 36 courses.
- There were 2 course deletions.

A motion was passed approving the recommendations of the UCC.

College of Human Ecology, Current Status:
Professor Youatt, Acting Dean of the College of Human Ecology, presented a brief overview of the College. All of the changes that have occurred to this point have come to members as part of a report of UCAP or UCC. The changes in the College began about one year ago with reorganization and deployment of programs to different places in the University. The concept was to put programs in places where there would be additional vitality. In terms of history, the College of Human Ecology was established in 1896 and has a long and proud legacy. What made sense organizationally one-hundred and nine years ago would not be organized the same today. More than half of the colleges that were traditionally home economics in the country have been reorganized for that reason.
The notion of preparing people in food, clothing and housing has changed dramatically over the years and those programs have become professional programs in areas like interior design, child development teaching and dietetics. All of the programs in Human Ecology, but one, have found other homes through a process by which faculty determined where there was a fit and requested an administrative move in UCAP. There are three departments in the College of Human Ecology. Food Science and Human Nutrition had been jointly administered by the College of Agriculture for over a decade and already had a home. The Nutritional Sciences program aligned with the College of Natural Science. The Department of Family and Child Ecology moved administratively to the College of Social Science. The Department of Human Environment and Design had three programs, Merchandizing Management, Interior Design and Apparel and Textile Design. The Merchandizing and Management Program joined the College of Communication Arts and Sciences and the Interior Design Program found a home in the School of Planning, Construction and Design. The last Program, Apparel and Textile Design, has not found a home but is administratively housed in the College of Communication Arts and Sciences this year. There is one tenure stream faculty and one retiring faculty in the Program. Discussions are continuing at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Wright
Secretary for Academic Governance

Tapes of complete meeting for the Academic Council are available for review in the office of the Secretary for Academic Governance, 308 Olds Hall, 355-2337.