The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. The agenda was approved with several additional announcements by Ted Tims. The minutes of Feb. 8 were approved as corrected.

Announcements:

- Ted Tims announced that the ECAC (Executive Committee of the Academic Council) approved new name changes for the following departments: Biochemistry to Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Microbiology to Microbiology and Molecular Genetics.

- Ted Tims announced that the Academic Council will consider a proposal to guarantee that faculty hold a majority of seats on the Council, or at least 50%. Over the years, student and administrative representation has increased, and faculty currently comprise only 48% of the membership.

Faculty also were updated on a student initiative to update the Student Conduct Policy to cover riot situations.

- Ted Tims announced that the Faculty Work Environment Improvement Committee will present a progress report to the Faculty Council next week. Out of 55 short-term recommendations, 40 have been completed. Implementation committees have been staffed by the Provost's Office.

- Charles Gliozzo inquired about the status of faculty incentives and rewards. Bob Banks reported that some of these initiatives are still pending, but currently there are recognition dinners for faculty with President McPherson and other university officials for faculty who have received grants, published books, etc.

- Ted Tims announced that concept of the 2020 Vision plan will be voted on by the BOT in March. Of immediate concern to faculty likely will be a 100% or more increase in parking fees to cover parking costs on campus. The Provost described this as a "no-choice" item since parking has to pay for itself. However, this is now exacerbated by the construction of new parking ramps to replace old parking areas, and faculty reports that current parking spaces are not adequate for their needs to discharge their various duties. Ted stated that Norm Abeles suggested that the UCFA consider trade-offs, such as increased salaries to offset parking fees. He also said that Byelich was looking into possible pre-tax offerings for parking fees.

- Considerable discussion ensued on the demoralizing aspects of this ongoing parking problem for faculty. Bob Banks suggested that the UCFA contact the Chair of the All-University Traffic Committee. The need for further information and several other strategies were discussed, such as: (1) asking what the total revenue generated per year is for parking (daily and including special events); (2) asking to what extent violations of parking are enforced and if this could be stepped up with tow-aways; (3) asking what the state capital outlay is for parking ramps and refurbishing these; (4) seeking additional, private sector funding; (5) asking about graduated parking options, such as reduced fees for outer-campus parking.

With Bob Banks' suggestion, UCFA members decided to invite Mike Rice (Deputy Chief, Parking and Safety), Jeff Kacos (Director, Campus Park and Planning), and Fred Poston (Financial Operations VP) to an upcoming UCFA meeting to help clarify these matters and seek better solutions to parking problems for faculty.

- Ted reported on various ECAC actions, including the official charge that UCFA look into the issue of faculty rights in the creation and distribution of on-line courses and materials (which was assigned to the Personnel
The Provost explained to the ECAC that the University's position on this matter is contained in the Instructional Materials Policy, which has been in effect for 40-50 years. The University anticipates no change in this policy, which gives the University ownership of such materials. MSU policy, reports the Provost, is in line with policies of our peer institutions. A new consideration is the licensing of on-line courses. The Provost acknowledged that some people want to treat on-line materials as outside university policy on instructional materials. At this time, however, there is no intent to change the policy.

- As our liaison to the BOT, Joanne Keith announced that a new Department of Neurology and Ophthalmology had been approved. She also announced a large land gift donated by Upjohn, near KBS. Also approved by the BOT was the proposal that all incoming freshmen in the year 2001 will be required to have personal computers that are internet compatible. (This policy does not require laptop computers.)

**Report from the Personnel Subcommittee:**

Martin Berz announced that there have been approximately 50 responses thus far on the UCFA web-talk page from faculty regarding their experiences with the new Travel Policy, mostly negative.

Martin stated that there is a growing need for the UCFA to develop some guidelines for determining appropriate topics/issues that individual faculty may pose for discussion via the UCFA's web-talk page that do not fit the categories of immediate topics/issues already created by the UCFA's extensive agenda.

As an example, Martin distributed a copy of a faculty member's e-mail request that an additional topic be added to the UCFA web-talk forum: "Faculty Rights and Administrative Corruption." Before copies of this e-mail message were distributed and the UCFA began discussing this particular request and its implications, Mike Rubner recused himself from the meeting. Currently the UCFA Chair and the two Sub-Committee Chairs can authorize topics for the web-talk forum.

Some initial concerns and general guidelines were discussed among UCFA members, but the task of generating UCFA guidelines was referred back to the Personnel Subcommittee for further discussion. Special requests such as this one and how to review, manage, report, and respond to faculty's ongoing feedback on the topics already posted on the UCFA web page will be reviewed in the Personnel Subcommittee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. without moving to subcommittees so that the President's State of the University address could be attended by UCFA members.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda T. May

College of Education