The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. The agenda was approved to focus on a discussion with faculty representatives from the All-University Traffic Committee. The minutes of February 22, 2000 were approved as corrected.

Announcements:

- Ted Tims called attention to a recent article in the *Atlantic Monthly* on intellectual property rights. Committee members felt the publication would provide excellent background material for future UCFA discussion on the topic. Charles Gliozzo will provide a copy for the committee.

- In keeping with this topic, Martin Berz stated that Vice Provost Paul Hunt would address the full committee on April 4th regarding copyrights, and web-based instruction.

- Ted announced that Norm Abeles from the Executive Committee of Academic Council indicated, in response to faculty concerns, he and Vice President Fred Poston would be discussing the proposed parking fee increase.

Discussion - Faculty Representative All-University Traffic Committee (AUTC):

- Ted Tims introduced special guests, Kathleen Rout and Indrek Wichman, faculty representatives on the All-University Traffic Committee. They had been invited to meet with UCFA regarding concerns previously voiced in committee on the lack of adequate parking spaces, and a proposed doubling of the parking fees on July 1.

- Kathleen Rout, AUTC committee chairperson, described the composition and responsibilities of the Committee. Membership consists of 3 faculty representatives, 2 students [at least one living off-campus], 1 residence hall student, 1 university apartment resident, 2 graduate students [one living in Owen Hall], 3 union representatives, 1 person with disability representative, 1 from Campus Park and Planning, 1 from Automotive Services, 1 from Housing and Food Services, 1 from Student Affairs Office, and 1 from Public Safety. The committee is advisory to the Provost regarding faculty/staff, student and visitor motor vehicle regulations, transportation needs [transit routes and bus stops], criteria for granting exceptions to parking and/or driving privilege regulations, leased parking spaces, and solutions to campus parking, traffic and transportation problems. The committee operating procedures describe a subcommittee structure, but this has been inoperative.

Kathleen indicated that service on this committee is frustrating, but not because, as UCFA members had presumed, faculty representatives are outnumbered by other representatives on the committee. Initially she approached her duties on the committee from a problem-solving mind set, but quickly came to believe that issues are decided before they are brought to the committee, and committee input (regardless of the source) is not taken into consideration. She felt the committee was most often used as a "rubber stamp" for issues mainly driven by budget concerns and the requirement that university parking must "pay for itself." Leadership for the committee seems to occur outside of the formal hierarchy.

Faculty representatives on the committee feel stymied by an inability to obtain feedback from faculty constituents in the manner that undergraduate students, graduate students, and union members can from their formal
organizations. In Kathleen's opinion, most parking problems relate to inappropriate student parking and a lack of routine enforcement of regulations.

- Indrek Wichman, AUTC member, echoed Kathleen's opinion that decisions are handed down from an "upper level." He questioned the wisdom of the premise that university parking must pay for itself. Indrek stated that it seems shortsighted to fund construction of a new building, but not to including funding for parking and traffic flow patterns. Expecting traffic fees and fines to pay for parking structures is in effect a tax on those employed at or attending MSU to fund campus infrastructures. He indicated, that from an engineer's standpoint, the campus roads and parking structures are cheaply built and not built to last as are underground parking structures. In addition, from a landscape architectural view, the aesthetics of campus are often ignored to fill the need for additional parking spaces.

- During the discussion that followed the opening remarks by representatives from AUTC, the following issues were raised by UCFA members:
  
  - Need for data to facilitate a more meaningful discussion [# and distribution of parking spaces, # of faculty/staff/student parking permits, # of multiple car permits, changes in the distribution and use of leased spaces, # of retiree permits, parking spaces lost with road changes, anticipated parking lost with 20/20 planning, changing density of parking needs]
  
  - Budget information for a basic understanding of current constraints and possible solutions [revenue generated from parking fees, leased permits, events parking, tickets, metered areas, etc.; expenditures on lot maintenance, infrastructure, parking garages, traffic lights, gate installation, personnel, etc.]

  - Rationale for changes that have been and are occurring [student v. faculty parking in the lot by the Engineering Building, proposed doubling of parking fees for all employees and potential impact on various employee groups, premise that "parking must pay for itself," vehicles used for parking enforcement, problems associated with use of student enforcers, bus/shuttle service proposals, anticipated extension of Trowbridge road, proposal for roads under the railroads, etc.]

  - What can be done to facilitate "engaged community" involvement around the issues? [consider links to other university committees, encourage further examination of structure and function of AUTC, review potential communication with faculty constituents via UCFA web-site, explore concept of self-sufficiency of campus parking, avoid stance that "nothing can be done," consider involvement of other campus groups such as unions in discussion of parking issues, etc.]

- David Byelich indicated that Vice President Poston is willing to meet with UCFA and the faculty representatives from AUTC in a few weeks. As background information, he will be provided a copy of UCFA’s minutes of 2/15/00 and the 11/29/99 memo from Fred Tims to the AUTC.

- Gretchen Flo made the motion that an ad hoc committee of UCFA be established to continue liaison with faculty representatives on the All-University Traffic Committee around the parking/traffic issues. Ann Millard seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

- Gretchen Flo distributed a final draft of a proposed response from UCFA on the Medical Faculty Appointment System Document. Charles Gliozzo distributed the final draft of the Faculty Peer Recognition Award. The committee will review these documents next week.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m. to subcommittees.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Johnson

College of Osteopathic Medicine