University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Members Present: Mary Bresnahan, Joe Darden, Jan Eberle, Louis Hunt, Michael Harrison, Cheri Johnson, Harry Perlstadt, James Potchen, David Solomon, Shawnee Vickery, Alice Whiren, and Gwen Wyatt.

Ex Officio: Robert Banks, David Byelich.

Others: Michael Rubner.

Call to Order: Chairperson Gwen Wyatt called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda to be used for the 2002-03 meetings was approved at the August 27, 2002 meeting.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Dr. Potchen to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2002. Dr. Darden seconded. The motion was approved.

Announcements: After some discussion by the full UCFA, it was decided that the committee could reduce paper usage by having the recording secretary e-mail a copy of the approved weekly meeting Minutes to the committee members. UCFA members would then have the option of deleting the Minutes from their electronic mail files on a regular basis after reading them. The draft Minutes would continue to be presented weekly in hard copy for perusal, consideration, and approval. Both the chairperson and recording secretary would maintain a full file of Minutes for historical purposes.

Dr. Potchen will host the UCFA for dinner on Friday, October 18, at 5:30 p.m. in the Department of Radiology conference room.

Chairperson Wyatt drew five names of faculty to serve on the University Appeals Board. They are: Kathy Petroni, Associate Professor in Accounting, College of Business; Ray Nachreiner, Professor, Large Animal Clinic, College of Veterinary Medicine; Millie Omar, Associate Professor, Nursing, College of Nursing; Teresa Wehrwein, Associate Professor, Nursing, College of Nursing; and David Wong, Associate Professor, Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Special Education, College of Education. The first two will be asked to serve on the Board. If any decline, then the next one on the list will be asked until two agree to serve.

Subcommittee Reports:

Personnel: Susan Melnick, Chair. In the absence of Dr. Melnick, Dr. Perlstadt reported on the Personnel Subcommittee. The subcommittee is still seeking names of faculty to nominate to serve on the panel to review cases for the President of the University on dismissal of tenured faculty for cause. The Committee on Faculty Tenure is also seeking names.

Discussion focused on the need to again review the current MSU Travel policy due to recent
financial changes in the air travel industry, the use of E-tickets (no ticket stub to turn in), and cheaper fares on intermediary services like Expedia or Orbitz. In addition, there are fewer options for limo service between Lansing and Metro Airport. There is some thought that MSU might look into running a shuttle to U-M and Metro Airport.

The subcommittee received a current set of Post-Tenure Review documents with the goal of making a clearer statement summarizing existing policy so that faculty and administrators understand what is entailed in post-tenure review. The subcommittee does not want to change the policy at this time.

Dr. Melnick’s report stated that she had contacted Leo Kempel of Engineering, chair of the University Graduate Council (UGC) about the Researcher’s Bill of Rights and related IRB Human Subjects issues.

Dr. Perlstadt led a discussion to review the Proposal for Mediation Pilot Program, a document distributed September 10, 2002. He distributed Comments on Mediation Proposal, a summary of possible changes for a paper distributed earlier, Proposal for a Mediation Pilot Program at Michigan State University. Dr. Perlstadt made a motion to bring it to the table to approve. Dr. Potchen seconded. The Comments were reviewed and discussed at length. Dr. Harrison made a motion to call for the question. Dr. Potchen seconded. The motion to call the question passed. The motion was then voted on and passed with one opposed. The Mediation document was approved as presented to the UCFA members on September 10, including the one page of editorial comments presented by Dr. Perlstadt at the September 17th UCFA meeting, and the omission of the last line of page 4 mentioning a letter from the Provost for the faculty’s annual merit packet, and a budget cap of $100,000 on the project.

Budget: Shawnee Vickery, Chair. Dr. Vickery gave a brief overview of her subcommittee’s many discussion topics: long-term care, 2002-03 recommendation for the university budget request, CIC tuition issues, Formulary committee, and salary issues, each one requiring careful consideration by the subcommittee.

Old Business: There was no old business noted.

New Business: Dr. Potchen, as the UCFA liaison to the Board of Trustees, felt that he had very positive rapport with the BOT as he spoke with them during their meeting last week. The Board was receptive to our goal of moving the faculty salaries to the mid-range of the Big Ten. He expressed appreciation to the Board and the administration for their efforts to head in this direction over the past few years.

Dr. Wyatt noted that the President would be giving the State of the University speech next Tuesday, September 24, at 2:30 p.m. in Wharton Center, and suggested that subcommittees discuss if they might want to rearrange their meeting time.

Mr. Byelich distributed copies of the MSU Preliminary Enrollment Report for the Board of Trustees, September 12, 2002 for the perusal of the Committee.

Adjournment: UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary