University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, January 20, 2004

Members Present: Mary Bresnahan, Joyce Chai, Jan Eberle, Michael Harrison, Cheri
Johnson, Susan Melnick, Whitney Miller, James Potchen, David Solomon, Shawnee Vickery,
Alice Whiren, and Gwen Wyatt.

Ex Officio: Robert Banks, David Byelich.

Others: Michael Rubner, Donna Zischke.

Call to Order: Chairperson Gwen Wyatt called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda to be used for the 2003-04 meetings was
approved at the August 26, 2003 meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Potchen made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 13,
2004. Dr. Melnick seconded. There was an editorial correction to correct the spelling of Dr.
Stricklen’s first name from John to Jon. The Minutes were approved.

Announcements:
- Dr. Melnick noted the Summary of Focus Conversations on the Future of the
  Liberal Arts and Sciences at Michigan State University by Marcellette Williams
  is now available for reading and consideration.
- Dr. Potchen, UCFA Liaison to the MSU Board of Trustees (MSU BOT) made a brief
  report on the January 16 meeting of the MSU BOT. He stated that the possible partial
  move of the medical school to Grand Rapids was addressed briefly. He also told the
  Board that the faculty is very appreciative of the way cost cutting is being handled
  presently.

Subcommittee Reports:

  Personnel: David Solomon, Chair. Dr. Solomon reported that the subcommittee met with
  Mr. Noto to continue working on a draft policy statement regarding Faculty Financial Conflicts
  of Interest.

  Budget: Shawnee Vickery, Chair. Dr. Vickery asked David Byelich to share his information
  with the full UCFA. He distributed two handouts and spoke briefly each: Revenue and Budget
  Shortfall Scenarios and Health Care Plans – Coverage Summary. Dr. Vickery noted that the
  February 12 meeting on the feasibility of MSU having a health care option would be changed
  to another date very soon due to a schedule conflict for Maggie Knapp, MSU Health Team.

Old Business: Dr. Whiren proposed that UCFA send a letter to Provost Simon stating that
UCFA understood that the practice has been to allow faculty vested for retirement to work a
decreased percentage of time (as negotiated with their unit), and maintain full health care
coverage. This practice, however, does not appear in Faculty Handbook in a clear and
complete manner. As of April 2003, this project was completed through the joint efforts of
UCFA and Pam Beemer. Unfortunately, UCFA has never seen the final version of this revised document, and they recommend that the Provost facilitate the completion of this project, and that it be concluded this year. Dr. Solomon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**New Business:** No new business was noted.

**Adjournment:** UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary