Members Present: Joseph Bonner, Howard Brody, Mei-Wei Chang, John Dirkx, Ross Emmett, Catherine Ernst, Michael Harrison, Thomas Mullaney, John W. Powell, Hayder Radha, and John Sherry.

Ex Officio: Robert Banks, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke.

UCFA members enjoyed light refreshments prior to (and during) the meeting.

Call to Order: Chairperson Ross Emmett called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: The boilerplate agenda used for the 2005-06 meetings was approved at the August 30, 2005 meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Mullaney made a motion to approve the Minutes of November 29, 2005 supported by Dr. Brody. The Minutes were approved.

Announcements:
- David Byelich said the refreshments were from the Provost in celebration of the end of a very productive semester for UCFA.
- Dr. Emmett made several announcements regarding academic governance.
  - The Working Group for the Improvement of Undergraduate Education document, distributed earlier, is still under discussion. There has not been an Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC) meeting since the paper was distributed to some of the standing committees.
  - Dr. Emmett did submit a report on the UCFA accomplishments for the fall semester and it is almost twice the length as last year’s report. He will distribute a copy of that report to UCFA members.
  - Tuesday, January 10, 2006, will be the first meeting of UCFA for the spring semester.

Subcommittee Reports:
- Budget: John Powell, Chair. Dr. Powell reported that the subcommittee reviewed the document The MSU Educational Goals for Liberal Learning, the Final Report of The Working Group for the Improvement of Undergraduate Education. Their discussion was confusing because the document was confusing. There are three points they have determined after reviewing the full document.

Subcommittee Reports, continued
- Budget, continued
  1) The document doesn’t serve any real purpose at this point in time except to provide a very broad
spectrum of information relevant to ideas for increasing undergraduate-level education.

2) It doesn’t have any implementation aspects to it whatsoever. There’s no real budget considerations that can be drawn from it because there’s nothing in there that’s has any definitive quality that would allow numbers to be put on whatever it is that is being recommended.

3) The report is disorganized, lacks necessary details, and is not well written making it impossible to glean anything of substance from the report.

Dr. Harrison made a motion stating that UCFA would be happy to examine a document submitted at a later date that has clear objectives and more carefully worded recommendations, but at the moment UCFA cannot figure this document out. Dr. Powell supported the motion. The motion was passed.

Personnel Policy: Sheila Teahan, Chair. In the absence of Dr. Teahan, Dr. Brody reported that the subcommittee continued to discuss the Conflict of Interest policy, addressing the points raised by Vice President Gray in his commentary resulting from his working visit the week before. They made recommendations in regard to incorporating and/or modifying those recommended points. They hope to bring a final draft to the full committee in early January 2006 for their consideration.

Old Business: No old business was noted.

New Business: No new business was noted.

Dr. Powell made a motion to adjourn supported by Dr. Brody. The motion carried.

Adjournment: UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles
Recording Secretary