
Ex Officio: Theodore Curry, David Byelich.

Others: John Revitte, Donna Zischke.

Call to Order: Chairperson Deborah Moriarty called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Davidson made a motion to approve the agenda seconded by Dr. Merrill. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Davidson made a motion to approve the Minutes of the September 16, 2008 meeting; Dr. Emmett seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Announcements:
- Professor Moriarty announced that Dr. Emmett would be chairing the October 14 UCFA meeting while she is traveling to China.
- Professor Moriarty reported that the agenda for both the September 16 Faculty Council meeting and the September 23 Academic Council meeting revolved around the academic calendar discussion. The bottom line was motion to simply support the administration’s desire to shorten Welcome Week. The other motion that passed was to ask the administration to look into successful Welcome Week programs (similar to what James Madison offers) and find ways to incorporate those into whatever they do with Welcome Week. The schedule for the beginning of the fall semester appears to freshmen will move in on Sunday and other students move in on Monday; Monday and Tuesday would be “Welcome” and orientation; classes would begin on Wednesday. Somehow UCFA was not notified initially when others were. Professor Moriarty further reported that the ASMSU representatives stated the students were also feeling left out of the system. The ASMSU president made a motion to have whatever Welcome Week activities “happened” should be of an academic nature. It was noted that very few faculty participate in Welcome Week.
- September 29, the Faculty Liaison Group and the Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC) At-Large-Members met with President Simon and discussed grants and how grant admissions had declined. President Simon shared that Faculty Council and Faculty Voice had definitely alienated the students and they felt disenfranchised. The students could be invited to speak at Faculty Council and feel more informed and included.
- Professor Moriarty appreciated the committee input on deferring discussion on the Anti-Discrimination Policy Amendment issues until everything is more settled.
- Professor Curry reported there is a movement on campus to organized specialists and
fixed-term faculty and, perhaps, expanding to include fixed-term teaching faculty and advisors.

- David Byelich spoke briefly and stated that the MSU financial books are closing “in the black” this year. He also stated that the *DRAFT MSU 2009-10 Appropriation Request* is on the UCFA web site (http://opbweb.msu.edu/ucfa) for the committee’s perusal.

- Professor Revitte distributed copies of the *Annual Report of the FGO: August 16, 2007 through August 15, 2008*. He gave an overview of the report highlights and explained different points he felt were important to note.

- Dr. Davidson reported the Faculty Health Care Committee had met twice including the reorganization meeting. The committee is already busy looking into different areas of information. Dr. Davidson is also appointed to the Human Resources Health Care Committee as the UCFA representative to that committee. The budget for university health care is about $112 million.

**Subcommittee Reports:**

**Budget:**  *Ross B. Emmett, Chairperson*  
Dr. Emmett reported that his subcommittee is looking at the draft state appropriation request. They’ve reviewed a 10-year projection of the financial status of MSU and discussed a few issues that that model affects.

**Personnel Policy:**  *Jason Merrill, Chairperson*  
Dr. Merrill reported that the subcommittee will continue review on the annual memorandum regarding appointment, reappointment, promotion and tenure and move on into the criminal background check policy. Discussion continued on the questions raised by Dr. Westphal in her September 29 e-mail regarding “Form D” and consideration of the elimination of the use of SIRS forms. It was decided to forward her e-mail through Dr. Emmett as he attends ECAC next week.

**Old Business:**  No old business was noted.

**New Business:**  Professor Moriarty inquired what the next step should be regarding input from UCFA on the academic calendar issue. After some discussion, it was determined that the topic definitely does involve reviewing this topic from the budget perspective.

**Other Questions:**  No other questions were noted.

**Adjournment:**  Dr. Radha made a motion to adjourn to subcommittees seconded by Dr. Davidson. The motion carried. UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elva Boyles, Recording Secretary