Reflections on meeting with Prof. Paul Hunt, Thursday, Nov 4
re: Student Laptop Issue

This meeting was between Prof. Hunt and a delegation from UCAP, Prof. Wald, Prof. Imig, and Prof. Bossen.

The meeting was both informative and cordial; it was a good meeting.

The central idea that ubiquitous computing is important to the future of MSU, and the possible role that laptops may play in the future is important, and should be a topic of continued interest.

Three specific recommendations were formulated by the delegation in discussion following the meeting.

1. UCAP should consider making a strong statement about the University making available resources to support the computing function as relates to the instructional mission of the U.
2. UCAP should consider a recommendation to the Provost to establish a continuing faculty task force with appropriate student representation to consider the scope, needs, and implications of computing and technology as it impacts learning and instruction.
3. UCAP should consider a recommendation to the Provost that given the computer policy of the U, MSU is aggressively encouraging all faculty to come forward with ideas for support of computing and computer use in the classroom - and that funds will be made available on a competitive basis for prototyping use of ideas judged to be of merit. This task force should be an adjunct of UCAP and should report finding and recommendations directly to UCAP.

The final report of UCAP to the Provost on the Student Laptop Issue should be supported by a careful statement of its rationale.

Finally, the establishment of a web site for parents and prospective MSU students outlining the policy, and what it directly means to them should be established. The web site might be augmented with an interactive recommendation section in which a user would list their demographics and desires for a computer, and a recommendation for purchase options would be output.