

## ACADEMIC COUNCIL

## MINUTES

**Tuesday, April 25, 2000**  
**3:15 p.m., 115 International Center**

**Present:** President McPherson, Provost Simon, Abeles, Schwille (for Ames), Arnold, Arroyo, Baker, Ballenberger, Banks, Batie, Berg, Bernsten, Bladzick, Breznak, Chou, Church, Conner, Crewe, Deverman, Downes, Duskin, Fisher, Fouke, Geist, Grandstaff, Greenberg, Haka, Hall, Barber (for Henry), Holm, Pysarchik (for Hudzik), Hunt, Strampel (for Jacobs), June, Keefe, Baker (for King), Klomparens, Kruger, Lausman, Lemon, Leroi, MacCluer, McHugh, Mertig, Song (for Miller), Moon, Nair, Rathke, Gift (for Rothert), Rubner, Sayed, Selanders, Short, Silverman, Simonds, P. Smith, Soffin, Miller (for Spaniolo), Spees, Steidle, Stommel, Straney, Taggart, Teppen, Thoennesen, Thomas, Thornton, Tims, VanDyne, Wald, Webber, Wetzell, Wilkins, Wright, Wurst, Ziarko 76

**Absent:** Abbett, Abrahams, Baladi, Barker, Barton, Bastedo, Beede, Blackburn, Bonten, Chapp, Collins, Constantinou, Crespo, Cristescu, Davis, Dickson, Dow, Dreger, Garnett, Gelbke, Ghorpade, Gray, Gulick, Hassouna, Hayes, Hoerr, Huggett, Iheduru, Jaworski, Keenlance, Lounsbury, Lovelace, Lynch, Mahadevan, Maleszewski, Milligan, Mixon, Moore, Nowak, Nickels, Nielsen, Orzea, Overby, Pendell, Penner, Poston, Punch, Ramamoorthi, Robson, Sagataw, Sauer, Schultz, Schwartz, See, L. Smith, Sroufe, Stark, Sten, Sticklen, Stoyanovich, Tarras, Taylor, Velicer, Whims, Whitten 65

At 3:25 the meeting was called to order without a quorum. Provost Simon asked if there was any objection to going forward with information items while awaiting a quorum. There was no objection and the following agenda items were taken up without a quorum:

**Provost's Remarks:**

Provost Simon said that it has been a very successful academic year, as reflected in the achievements of faculty and students. She thanked the Council members for their participation in governance and said that several important issues had been treated during the year. She commented that improving faculty salaries was a top budget priority with the Provost and President, but that, of course, salary increases would depend on the possibilities presented by state appropriations. She also noted that UGC and COGS have again raised the issue of tuition remission for graduate assistants and that that issue deserves thoughtful consideration.

**Remarks of the Chairperson of the Executive Committee of Academic Council:**

Professor Abeles noted that Professor Grandstaff is retiring as Secretary for Academic Governance and that this would be his last meeting as Secretary. There was enthusiastic applause, whether of appreciation or relief, it was impossible to say. Professor Abeles also introduced Professor Jacqueline Wright, the next Secretary.

**Election of at-large faculty members to the Executive Committee of Academic Council:**

Professor Grandstaff announced that the election to two positions on ECAC had been held. All regular faculty members received ballots, a total of 2,080, of which 471 were returned. Professor Norman Abeles of Social Science and Professor Karen Chou of Agriculture and Natural Resources were elected.

**UCSA Brief Information Statement:**

Mike Webber, Chairperson of Student Assembly, reported that the University Committee on Student Affairs has completed a draft proposal for an off-campus disciplinary policy which will be introduced in the governance system next year.

**President's Remarks:**

President McPherson commented on the selection of Mr. Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank, as a commencement speaker. He said that negotiations for speakers begin quite early and that the initial conversations took place in the Fall, before Mr. Wolfensohn assumed his present position. The President took note of recent demonstrations and protests of World Bank policies in Seattle and Washington. He said that there is a right of dissent on campus, but it should be civil and should not substantially disrupt commencement, which is a major event for graduates and their families. He announced that each graduate would receive eight tickets. The ticket system is designed not to stifle protest, but to protect graduates and their families. He invited those who disagree with the policies of the World Bank to send their disagreements to him in writing, which he will then present to the Bank President. President McPherson also commented on the sweatshop issue in much the same terms as had Provost Simon. He believes that both of the competing organizations have something important to offer. He expressed deep interest in the problem and the hope that MSU can work with other universities to have an impact on the matter.

**A quorum was reached at 4:05 and the business agenda was taken up.**

**Agenda:**

Without objection, the language, "Graduate Students' Rights and Responsibilities Document and" was removed from the heading of item 8. With that change, the agenda was adopted as presented.

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting of February 29, 2000, were approved as submitted.

**Reports of the University Committee on Curriculum:**

Professor Holm moved the approval of the UCC Report of March 21 and summarized the contents of the Report. There being no discussion, the vote was taken and the Report was approved.

Professor Holm announced the following changes in the Report of April 25: On page 4, delete 2. A5 GBL 395; on page 6, delete item 6; on page 13, A becomes B; MGT 310 becomes 460. Professor Holm moved approval of the Report as amended. The motion was seconded and the vote was taken. The Report was approved.

**UCAP Resolution on Transcollegiate Course Requirement:**

Professor Wald summarized the discussion leading to the resolution, noting that the requirement had never really been put in place. The resolution, eliminating the Transcollegiate Course Requirement, was moved, seconded and approved.

**Language Change in Program Catalog:**

Professor Conner moved approval of the proposed change. The motion was seconded. He noted that the change would eliminate an apparent conflict between the Programs book and the GSRR. Professor Greenberg asked if the change, as stated, would apply to courses taken at another university. After some discussion, Professor Greenberg proposed a friendly amendment, which was accepted by the mover and seconder, to state that the starting point of the time limitation would apply to MSU courses, taken at the student's first matriculation as a doctoral candidate at MSU.

**Announcement:**

Charles McHugh announced the new officers elected by Academic Assembly of ASMSU.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17.

The Secretary wishes to add a personal note of thanks to all of those who have made his job enjoyable and productive during the past five years.

Respectfully submitted,

Marvin Grandstaff  
Secretary for Academic Governance

Tapes of complete meetings of the Academic Council are available for review in the office of the Secretary for Academic Governance, 308 Olds Hall, 355-2337.