

**Annual Report, 1997-1998**  
**University Committee on Academic Policy**  
**Folke Lindahl, Chairperson**

**Meetings held:** 9/4/97; 9/18/97; 10/2/97; 10/30/97; 11/13/97;  
1/22/98; 2/5/98; 3/5/98; 4/2/98; 4/30/98.

**Committee Actions and Activities:**

- (1) On 9/18/96, the UCAP approved a motion to discontinue the Food: Technology and Management Major. The reason behind the motion was the lack of students in the major.
- (2) On 10/2/97, the UCAP began a discussion of issues related to proposed changes in selected Agricultural Technology Programs. Issues discussed included the desirability of conversion of courses from the 0-level to the 100-level, the transferability of these courses, and admission criteria.
- (3) On 10/2/97, the UCAP began a discussion of the ASMSU Resolution on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- (4) On 10/30/97, the UCAP continued the discussion of the issues related to proposed changes in selected Agricultural Technology Programs. The Committee served in an advisory mode and no action was taken.
- (5) On 10/30/97, the UCAP passed a "sense of the committee" resolution regarding ASMSU Resolution on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. It was the sense of the Committee: that the University cancel classes for a designated, substantial bloc of time of the day; that the focus of the celebration be the legacy of King understood broadly and as it applies to all; that there be a substantial effort, including students, faculty, and academic units, to plan the celebration of the legacy; and that the occasion be treated as an opportunity to increase the cultural competence of our students. The resolution was sent to the Steering Committee of Academic Council.
- (6) On 11/13/97, the UCAP discussed the University's definition of residency. A joint subcommittee (UCAP and the Graduate Council) was formed to redefine residency.
- (7) On 2/5/98, the UCAP began a discussion of the question of public access to the SIRS forms. The issue was generated by the students' request for access to the forms. (The discussion of this issue continued in the UCAP Meetings of 3/5/98 and 4/2/98.)

- (8) On 2/5/98, the UCAP began a discussion to review graduation with honor and high honor.
- (9) On 3/5/98, the UCAP approved a motion regarding the calendar change resulting from the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The opening of the semester was advanced to the Monday preceding the originally scheduled Wednesday. The change will begin with the 98-99 academic year.
- (10) On 3/5/98, the UCAP agreed to prepare a statement regarding the policy and practice of commercialized notetaking to be used by instructors who are concerned with protecting their lecture/classroom materials. (The statement was approved by the UCAP on 4/2/98.)
- (11) On 4/2/98, the UCAP rejected a motion to change the GPA threshold from 2.75 to 3.0 for admission to the Accounting major of the College of Business.
- (12) On 4/30/98, the UCAP rejected the re-introduced proposal from the College of Business to change the admission requirement for the Accounting major. The UCAP recommended instead (a) that the College devise a set of criteria that included, but went beyond GPA; (b) that the criteria include some focus on "people" skills; (c) that, consistent with the land grant mission, the College place a premium on diversity in its student body; (d) that the College apply the criteria with reference to selecting the number of students which constituted the limitation target.

**Presentations:**

- (1) On 9/18/97, the UCAP hosted J. Sheppard, Director of the MSU Union, C. Gancio, General Manager of the MSU Bookstore and S. Gribbens, Customer Service Manager of the MSU Bookstore, who spoke about the book order process and customer service at the MSU Bookstore. They returned on 11/13/97 to report back to the UCAP on issues raised in the 9/18/97 meeting.
- (2) On 10/2/97, the UCAP hosted Associate Dean R. Brandenburg, who reported on the proposed changes in the Agricultural Technology Programs.
- (3) On 11/13/97, the UCAP hosted S. McMillan of the Registrar's Office, who reported on the elimination of the hard copy of the schedule book.
- (4) On 1/22/98, the UCAP hosted William Latta of the Office of Facilities Planning and Space Management, who informed on how the office was attempting to derive faculty input on classroom modifications and related faculty needs.
- (5) On 1/22/98, the UCAP hosted Mick Vande Berg (Office of Study Abroad), who reported on changes in and expansion of overseas study programs.

(6) On 4/2/98, the UCAP hosted Associate Dean James Rainey, who addressed the reasons for a proposed change from the College of Business to raise the current 2.75 GPA requirement for admission to the Accounting major to a 3.0.

(7) On 4/30/98, the UCAP hosted Associate Dean James Rainey and Kevin Loudon, who again presented the reasons for the request to change the requirement for admission to the Accounting major in the College of Business.

**Items for Future Discussion:**

- (1) SIRS-form policy
- (2) Graduation with honors issue
- (3) First-year student projects
- (4) Criteria for program admission at the junior year