Members Present: Bob Barnett, David Gordon, Vahid Lotfi, D. J. Trela and Chris Waters

Gerard called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes from Meeting of December 8 Minutes from the Council of Deans Meeting of December 8 were reviewed and approved as corrected.

Policy for IGS Study Abroad Courses Vahid distributed a handout regarding the Policy for IGS Study Abroad Courses. The revised version was as a result of his and DJ’s meeting with Ananth Aiyer, Director of IGS. Deans Barnett, Lotfi and Trela approved the document at the meeting; Dean Gordon asked for more time.

Transfer Working Group Report – Presidents Council Chris disseminated three handouts: an email from Patricia Farrell from Presidents Council; the Report and Recommendations from the MCCA Working Group on “Block” Transfer; and the PCSUM Transfer Working Group Report and Recommendations on Improving Statewide Transfer Processes (Draft 4).

Chris explained that the Transfer Working Group was called together by Michael Boulus, Executive Director of Presidents Council, to craft a response to the group representing community colleges and public universities in the state of Michigan, MCCA regarding the proposed recommendations on “Block” Transfers. Part of the MCCA proposal focused on creating a block of general education credits which would be acceptable to all Michigan community colleges and public universities when they accept transfer students. The Report and Recommendations from the MCCA Working Group on “Block” Transfer was reviewed by the Transfer Working Group and revised many times; Chris provided Draft 4. Chris reported that her group of 25-30 reviewed models from four states: Iowa, Minnesota, Indiana, and California. They created a core of 30 credits which would be transferrable to Michigan universities making changes on the MCCA’s list of courses and credits.

There was discussion regarding the importance of students not losing their credits and the best way to inform our faculty of these changes. A decision was made for Chris to contact GECAC for their advice in making adjustments to general education transfer credits.
Matters Arising  ▶ Gerard expressed a desire for more uniform policies regarding promotion and tenure appeal processes. There are inconsistencies across units regarding time to file an appeal. Gerard expressed a preference that the appeals process remains within Academic Affairs on the Flint campus. Discussion followed on when candidates are informed of positive and negative recommendations and the College/School level; mentoring for new faculty; and the two and four year review process. Gerard indicated that Jeff Frumkin has been asked to a future meeting where these issues could be discussed more thoroughly.

Discussion took place regarding classroom space. General use classrooms are scheduled by the Registrar’s Office. Dedicated classrooms and laboratories are scheduled by the departments or programs that oversee them. Gerard suggested holding a meeting on classroom use and inviting Stacy Lee from the Registrar’s Office and Harvey Sherman from Mediated Classrooms.

Gerard reported that AAAC will be reviewing the academic calendar for 2013-14 and asked if the deans would like to look at it. Gerard explained that we have certain rules to follow in creating the calendar such as commencement must occur the same week as Ann Arbor’s. When asked why we don’t follow the Ann Arbor calendar, Vahid shared that Ann Arbor gives their final exams outside of class times. Discussion followed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.