August 20, 2010

MEMORANDUM

To: Dean Satish Udpa

From: Robert Y. Ofoli

Re: Service on ISP Advisory Consultative Committee (ISP/ACC)

The ISP/ACC serves in an advisory/consultative role to the Dean of International Studies and Programs (ISP). Typical issues brought to the committee include international linkage agreements, international engagements such as Dubai, and other issues brought to the Committee by the Dean. Perhaps the most important development in 2009-2010 was the formal integration of MSU Dubai into ISP. Other key discussions included the following:

- College Research Priorities received from Engineering, Education, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Osteopathic Medicine, and Arts and Letters.
- Request for inclusion of cultural accuracy as part of the review and approval process for International Agreements. This issue was slated to be addressed by the partner institutions and the ISP Centers
- A review of the numbers of international students and countries represented at MSU, along with an expressed goal of increasing both the numbers and country diversity of MSU international students
- Several updates on MSU Dubai, along with expressions of concerns from some ACC members about student enrollment and funding for the site, in light of the tight economic times MSU was experiencing. The issue was whether funds that could be used at MSU were being diverted to Dubai. This appears not to be the case
- The need to expand both access and outreach to new and mid-level career faculty at MSU, so they are aware of the centers and services available through ISP. Also discussed was the need for ISP pre- and post-award services and support to faculty who have grants that deal with international issues
- Re-balancing of ISP to provide better support for international research and education. This requires a better definition and alignment of the goals and roles of the area centers in international research and education
- New international initiatives in Brazil and in Malawi