Summary of meetings with CNAS faculty from January 20-February 9, 2015. I met with 92/120 instructors and ranked faculty in CNAS. Questions asked – “What opportunities and challenges face us in the next ten years? If you were king/queen for the day which one thing would you fix/address?”

List of Challenges/Opportunities noted by the faculty (no particular order)

* Funding for higher education
* Transfer students adjusting to upper division course work
* Free community colleges
* Technology – online courses, blended courses, use of technology in classrooms
  + Use of WiFi and iPads in the classroom to project materials.
  + Use of iphones and smart watches in the classroom
  + Storage of online materials on university servers. Is there enough space?
* Space – more needed
  + Renovations – Cheek, Kings Street Annex
* Recruitment/retention of students
* Recruitment/retention of outstanding faculty
* Constant growth/class sizes
* Equipment for labs (purchase and maintenance)
* Interdisciplinary topics (nanotechnology, big data, environmental, sustainability)
* Finding time to make necessary curricular changes
* How do we, as faculty, model the public affairs mission to our students?
* End duplication in courses at MSU – especially BIO and BMS
* Need more faculty-to-faculty interactions between MSU and OTC.
* Globalization of education
* Time
  + Time required for all new accountability measures on top of time for teaching, research and service.
  + Balance of teaching and research
* Need MS in CSC
* Keep our courses relevant.
* Centralize all analytical equipment in the college.
* Cluster server policies.
* Faculty Salaries

List of Challenges/Opportunities that are being addressed now

* Several faculty noted challenges at the Bear Claw with math tutoring
  + There is a meeting scheduled for 3/2/2015
* Visibility for Research – need for faculty research to be on faculty websites
  + Faculty websites now controlled by HR with specific topics but all faculty may have their own website to put publications and other research information. Ken McCrory, CNAS ITSS, will be offering training for interested faculty. Please contact Ken if you are interested.
* Interdisciplinary topics
  + Nanotechnology – We have had a small group meeting and will continue to move them toward greater visibility and federal funding.
  + Big Data – CSC has scheduled an initial event in March. There will be follow-up.
* Classroom technology – I will have Ken McCrory do a survey to find out which classrooms are lacking the technology that faculty want/need. The list will then be distributed to set priorities. (Goal – complete list by May 1, 2015.)
* Storage for online course materials – Ken McCrory has done an initial survey and is offering faculty training. We will reassess this in August.
* Journal holdings – I have contacted Dean of Libraries to analyze usage of current journals and investigate the possibility of adding new holdings. I will keep you posted.
* Need a glassblower – I found one in MO. Your department head has a phone number!
* Get more grant budget information out to PI’s (or maybe more training is needed).
  + Distributed balances recently. Will seek more feedback to understand what is needed.
* How can we help the homeless student that arrives in our course, our office?
  + Student affairs has a task force working on this. I’ll be following their progress.

List of things faculty would do if they were king/queen for a day (or more)

* Identify non-federal sources of funding and distribute lists to CNAS faculty.
* More research opportunities for undergraduate students within courses (not just research courses)
* Attach a conference center to Temple Hall with parking availability.
* All faculty offices would have windows.
* Add recitation sections to all large lecture courses.
* Put more resources into graduate programs in CNAS
* Increase the availability of internships for CNAS students
* Open computer lab in Temple hall
* Do CNAS Awards presentations at annual college picnic.
* Start an environmental science major
* Build large new science buildings on lots 4 and 19 to develop a STEM quad. Move MTH and CSC to the quad from Cheek Hall.

Next steps–

* Distribute to CNAS faculty to make sure I didn’t miss something.
* Share with department heads.
* Meet with all CNAS staff to collect the same information.
* Meet with CNAS Student Advisory Council to collect their feedback.

Once we are confident that we have a good list then it will be prioritized.