In its ongoing quest for excellence, Michigan State University is moving forward with an aggressive plan to create a Healthier Campus. This action report represents an initial effort by an ad hoc task force to sift through the seemingly infinite goals and activities that will move MSU toward this goal and establish a first set of recommended specific actions. The committee acknowledges that this initial prioritization will not create a perfectly Healthy Campus Environment. However, we feel the implementation of these action items will significantly move the needle, a lofty accomplishment in itself.

The Healthy Campus Team began its charge by identifying overarching outcomes to be addressed through implementation of specific activities to move MSU toward becoming a healthier campus for students, faculty and staff. These overarching goals include: (1) Improve health status metrics, (2) Address safety on campus, (3) Create a climate of health engagement/activity, (4) Increase student retention and graduation rates, (5) Incorporate health as a strategic corporate-level goal, (6) Decrease overall healthcare expenditures by MSU, and (7) Address work-life balance.

In order to impact these overarching outcomes, the task force recommends action on the following specific items presented in random order:

- Create a program that provides incentives for employees to actively participate in individualized Health Risk Assessment program.
- Incentivize employees to improve their health metrics and personal health capacity through tiered system of deductibles, co-pays or other cash value benefits.
- Make MSU top the list as America’s “Best University to Work For” by identifying and improving the health-related indicators for job satisfaction in a university setting.
- Implement a smoke-free campus plan.
- Lead from the top by having the Board of Trustees incorporate health status metric(s) as an integral component of the university’s strategic agenda where university leaders are evaluated on the success of addressing these goals.
- Create an overarching program of health engagement through multiple activities and programs that are promoted in ways that enable students, faculty and staff to view a healthy campus as a high priority for MSU.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive and consolidated university-wide program of health and safety educational opportunities so that MSU students are given the knowledge, ability and skills to successfully complete a degree, have success in their careers and live a well life.

In summary, the specific action steps proposed by this committee will create a culture and physical environment that promotes good health, enables academic success and productivity, maximizes limited university resources, and achieves increased positive health behaviors and quality of life for all members of the MSU community.
Members of this ad hoc committee included:

- Nancy Allen, Health Promotion Services Integration Coordinator
- Scott Becker, Associate Director, Counseling Center
- Matthew Helm, Student Life Assistant Director, Career Services and Placement
- Dennis Martell, Health Education Service Coordinator, Olin Student Health Center
- Richard McNeil, Director, Recreational Sports and Fitness Services
- Mary Mundt, Dean, College of Nursing
- John Powell, Associate Professor Athletic Training, Intramural Sports Circle
- James Pivarnik, Director, Center for Physical Activity and Health
- Edward Rosick, Assistant Professor of Family and Community Medicine, Department of Family and Community Medicine, COM
- Ann Ryan, Professor, Department of Psychology
- Dean Sienko, Associate Dean, Public Health, College of Human Medicine
- Kami Silk, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, CAS
- Sandi Smith, Professor Director of the Health and Risk Communication Center for CAS
- Richard Ward, CEO, Health Team
- Pamela Whitten, Dean, College of Communication Arts & Sciences