On October 19, 2006 the Curriculum Council of the Faculty Senate unanimously approved the Department of Horticulture Undergraduate Academic Program Team Report.

The Council agrees with the principal conclusions of the report that characterize the undergraduate program of the Department of Horticulture as one with a long history of successful undergraduate education.

During the discussion of the report with the presenters, Burke Hales, Anita Azarenko, and Larry Curtis, and in the subsequent discussion among Council members, two points came up that we want to call to your attention.

- The Undergraduate Academic Program Review apparently does not require a library assessment component of some kind to determine adequacy of library resources that support the particular program. The Council recommends that this become a standard part of the review process.
- In Horticulture, and increasingly at OSU and other major universities, there are faculty members whose departmental assignment includes 50%-70% teaching responsibilities. Exemplary performance in these assignments can result in a lack of advancement through the professorial ranks. The expectations for tenure, and whether there are realistic possibilities for promotion through the professorial ranks for positions with heavy teaching responsibilities, need to be clearly stated and shared with job candidates – particularly with job candidates who are actively recruited.

The second item (also mentioned on page seven of the review report) is difficult and multifaceted. It is also an area where OSU has room for improvement across all academic units.