Martha Potvin, who became MSU’s new provost and vice president for academic affairs in 2011, is tenured in the Department of Ecology. Potvin has a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of Connecticut; a master’s degree in botany and plant ecology from Michigan State University; and a doctorate from the University of Nebraska in ecology and evolutionary biology. She previously served as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of biology at the University of North Dakota.