Introduction
The Academic Planning Council (APC) has completed its review of nine academic programs. This report provides key observations made across the nine programs. APC feels this report should supplement the individual recommendations made by APC for each program.

Background
The six-year Form B cycle focuses on the quality of academic programs at the University of Wisconsin – Platteville. The nine academic programs which completed Form B in Fall 2013 were:

- Civil Engineering
- Engineering Physics
- General Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Software Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Industrial Engineering
- Microsystems and Nanomaterials

The completed forms have been reviewed by the Assessment Oversight Committee, Academic Standards Committee, Academic Information Technology Committee, and APC.

Key Observations
The following observations are highlighted because they represent pervasive items across the programs reviewed.

- **Technology Alignment.** The programs consistently did not have the technology, training and/or support necessary to effectively use technology to influence student learning outcomes. Technology has increasingly become an important component to student learning. The ability to identify, deploy and support the right technology is critical across all academic programs. Administrative support is necessary for this to be an effective process.

- **Faculty Salary.** Most of the programs reviewed included an external review by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). ABET consistently raised a concern for our University’s ability to retain qualified staff in the future. This is a known issue across our campus, but one that ABET sees as a concern for the future of our programs.

- **Faculty Numbers.** ABET raised a concern regarding the growth in the University’s engineering programs compared to the quantity of qualified faculty. Similar to the faculty salary item, ABET sees this as a concern for the future of our programs.
• Quality Assessments. The first group of programs provided a strong model for academic assessment. The majority of the programs had clear measures of success and data to evaluate those measures of success. In addition, the use of advisory boards, alumni and third party reviewers (ABET) has continuously been used to advance the programs. This will provide APC an example to encourage from other academic programs.

APC is concerned, particularly with faculty salary and numbers that our constant effort at the University of Wisconsin - Platteville to make the best of limited resources will cause other parties such as the Wisconsin state legislature and the UW Board of Regents to not see the increasing danger to students and our State of not developing a long term solution to these outstanding issues.

Conclusion
APC understands the resource constraints the entire University of Wisconsin – Platteville faces. We believe we play an important role in advising administration regarding resource allocation (faculty, budget, and other dollars). We hope that this report will highlight some global areas which are critical to the success of our institution.