ANNOUNCEMENTS: Buttry announced that Judith Wurtzler will replace Marie Erdman as the Library representative to the Council. Robert Fidrych is on sabbatical this semester so Mark Evenson will replace him as the University Budget Committee representative and Steve Kleisath will replace him as a representative from the College of BILSA. Deb Gillespie explained that she was filling in for Kathy Tigerman as representative from the Academic Staff Senate.

Buttry reported that he had not been able to get from John Adams the data the Council had requested. Provost Carol Sue Butts indicated that she would get this data for us. Buttry then asked Butts if she could provide the data requested on the program review data sheets. She agreed to provide as much data as is presently available.

MINUTES: Barbara Parsons reported that only 6 emphases exist in the Communication Technology Management major rather than the 7 listed in the minutes. Stephanie Branson moved to approve the minutes with this correction; Parsons seconded; the minutes were approved.

PROGRAM AUDIT/REVIEW SCHEDULE: Buttry announced that John Krogman, Chair of General Engineering, will be out of town on the date he is scheduled to present that department’s program review and has requested a change of date. Buttry suggested that the Council reschedule this presentation to one of the last two dates (3/23, 4/6) since only two presentations are scheduled for these meetings. He will contact Krogman and see which one is better and update the Council.

Buttry distributed the self-study guidelines. He reminded the Council that we will begin reviewing programs at the next meeting (2/17). The protocol is that
the APC liaison to the program under review will make a brief introduction to the study and then introduce the program chair. The council asks questions, makes comments and then submits reports on each program to Provost Butts. Buttry reiterated that we need the data requested on the last page of the review guidelines but that program directors have had difficulty in accessing this information. Butts indicated that she will bring forward as much of this information as she can. Ray Spoto requested that Butts also try to include cost per credit hour and overhead costs per class or program in order to see how much the course costs and how much the course creates profit for the university.

Mark Shelstrom asked for clarification of average number of preparations per FTE. This refers to average number of different courses (vs. sections of the same course) a full time faculty member is responsible for.

Branson asked what action the APC takes on a self-report. Buttry replied that we receive it but that the Council may choose additional action depending on what they hear. Parsons added that many people see great value in such systematic self-study in and of itself.

PROVOST’S QUESTIONS: The Council returned to the questions that Provost Butts had encouraged the group to ask as they reviewed programs. Butts asked the Council if they had other questions they felt were essential for the Council to consider as they heard this year’s reports. Parsons suggested that the Council should specifically inquire about emphases within majors. Ceylan added that we should know the specific number of emphases per major. Parsons also suggested that we consider separating Computer Science and Communication Technology Management since this is such a large department. Ceylan added that it would be helpful when reporting a department’s number of graduates that a time period be specified. Buttry agreed saying that number is only helpful if it is over a sequence of years or semesters. He added that we also need to look at budget compared to number of students enrolled. Spoto reiterated that we need the cost per credit hour to be able to determine the cost of a program. Once more Butts assured the group that she would bring as much data as was available.

POSSIBLE TENURE-TRACK POSITION IN GERMAN: Branson asked Butts if a tenure track position in German was still being considered. Butts replied that the administration was concerned about the low number of German majors not just at UWP but system-wide. The number of majors in German and French have declined across the system while Spanish is the major that is on the rise. General enrollment of non-majors is up slightly in all languages. Mark Evenson rebutted saying that the numbers are up more than slightly, the increase is closer to 50% and that this is something that needs to be reconsidered. Butts replied that the University is highly concerned with internationalization but that Spanish is the only language that is in demand. Two UW campuses dropped the German major and the plans for distance learning
will allow students to take a variety of languages even if they are no longer offered on this campus. Evenson argued that the distance learning courses in language are not respected by students. Parsons asked that if LaCrosse and Parkside have dropped the German major might we not look at this as an opportunity to strengthen our major? Butts said yes that she hoped so. Evenson corrected himself saying that after looking at his data once more that the number of German majors is up by more than 50%. Spoto interjected that we shouldn’t be so concerned about numbers, however, if we look at how much tuition monies German generates compared to the cost of a single tenure track salary plus benefits and overhead, a German course could bring in $40,000 after all expenses. He ended by saying that UWP offers many very important programs with fewer than 15 majors; German is just one of them. We shouldn’t get stuck in a quantitative paradigm. Besides, area high school students can take German so certainly we as a university should be able to offer as much as a high school.

Branson added that the faculty have primary responsibility for determining curriculum. The German position was ranked as first priority by the College of Liberal Arts and Education and has had lots of student support (in fact the students visiting the meeting today are students of German). Branson indicated that she hoped the Administration won’t ignore the faculty’s role in shared governance.

Buttry reminded the Council that at the October 28, 1999 meeting the body had requested that the German position be replaced with a tenure track position. He then asked what action the Council wanted to take at this point? Parsons moved that the APC urge the Administration to replace the current German academic staff position with a full-time tenure track German position; Mittie Nimocks seconded. Parsons said that Wisconsin is historically Germanic. She added that Patrick Hagen, the present instructor in German is a quality performer and we should take advantage of this opportunity to keep him here. Evenson referred to the data he had reported earlier and said that the trend over the past 3 years is an increase in German majors by 70%. The question was called and the motion passed.

Branson moved adjourn and the meeting closed at 4:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Mittie Nimocks (LAE)