ACADEMIC PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES  
Meeting of November, 8 2000

Members present: Stephanie Branson (Chair), Ken Buttry, Carol Sue Butts, Tamer Ceylan, Shane Drefcinski, Robert Fidrych, John Mirth (substituting for Lynn Schlager), Barbara Parsons, Marc Shelstrom, Matt Sides, Judy Wurtzler

Visitors: Dan Dahlquist, Mittie Nimocks, Dan Fairchild, George Smith, Sally Standiford

The meeting came to order at 4:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
a.) Branson distributed four items to the council: A letter from Deans Standiford and Ford re: Speech and Communication Technologies, a November 8, 2000 letter from Dean Standiford re: the review of Fine Arts/Speech, and two summaries by Branson of the Speech Communication Self-Study of 3/31/00 and the same program’s faculty questionnaire respectively.

b.) Dean Shultz, of the College of Engineering, Mathematics, and Science will attend the Feb. 28, 2001 APC meeting and Dean Standiford, of the College of Liberal Arts and Education, will attend the March 28, 2001 APC meeting to make position allocation requests for their colleges.

c.) Butts reported that a Dr. Bauer will be on campus 1/20/01 to conduct a workshop on writing national grants. There are already 30 people signed up for this session, and if others are interested in attending, they should let the Vice Chancellor know.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Buttry moved and Drefcinski seconded approval of the minutes from the 10/25/00 meeting.

Concerning the Review “special and normal” Speech Communication (in the Department of fine arts) submitted 3/31/00.

Branson referred to her summaries of the Speech communication Self-Study and the program’s faculty questionnaire. Regarding the former, she specifically noted what she called “questions not directly addressed.” “Does the Basic Skills Committee or the Assessment Oversight Committee look at the acquisition of oral communication skills at UWP? Should they do so? Is there any other general assessment of these skills?” George Smith replied that the Basic Skills committee addresses this although “on paper for three years” math and writing have not been more specifically addressed.
Mittie Nimochs reported that speech faculty need to give both a pre- or diagnostic test at the beginning of the semester and a post-test at the end, but the post-test was discontinued because they didn’t have time for it.

Ceylan asked 1) if faculty in the program still think Speech Communication should be connected with the performance aspects of the Broadcast Production emphasis (in the current Department of Computer Science and Communication Technologies Management), i.e. WSUP radio and TV5; 2) and whether there was any discussion with the faculty regarding issues proposed in the letters from Standiford and Ford and Standiford respectively.

Standiford said that a number of conversations had been held with the Speech communication faculty. She also referred to the five recommendations made in the letter that she and Dean Ford sent to the Vice Chancellor, the Department of Fine Arts, the Department of Computer Science and Communication Technologies Management on 11/2/00. In addition she stressed, in accordance with her letter of 11/2/00, that she and Dean Ford proposed “placing the speech communication major in inactive status” with the intention being able to enhance and supplant the current major by for example, possibly developing a Speech/Theatre major and/or something involving the collaboration of faculty across the programs of Speech Communication and in particular the performance affairs of radio and TV. Standiford also spoke of the need to rethink how we are using our resources and of possibly having new (more) speech courses count for general education, such as, for example, Teacher Education Communication.

Drefcinski moved to receive the Speech Communication Self Study. Shelstrom seconded the motion. After further discussion in which Nimocks reported the Speech communication faculty’s being “very pleased” to be where they are now situated (in the Department of Fine Arts) and George Smith expressed concerns about the need for the APC to take account of the history regarding various issues touched on, including past cooperation among faculty, the motion was passed.

The motion having passed, it was agreed by the Council that we would take no action on issues raised re: Speech Communication until we have had the opportunity to review the program, George Smith represents, Communication Technologies Management.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Parsons