Minutes of the Academic Planning Council Meeting
November 9, 2005

Members present: Carol Sue Butts, Tim Deis, Carmen Faymonville, Susan Hansen, Brian Peckham, Donna Perkins, Jean Scheppers, Jennifer Snoek-Brown, Jason Thrun, Amanda Trewin, Sheryl Wills

Guests present: John Krogman, Diana Trendt

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:07 P.M.

II. Motion to approve the minutes of the October 12 meeting, moved by Carmen and seconded by Susan, was passed. Motion to approve the minutes of the October 26 meeting, moved by Amanda and seconded by Jason, was passed.

III. Announcements:
   a. Carol Sue Butts announced that UWP has been granted two entitlements to plan: an international master’s degree in computer science and a bachelor’s degree in MIMS and nanotechnology.
   b. Jean Scheppers announced that she has received a request from Rhea Presiado, geography, asking APC to review student learning outcomes in a project funded by a grant. Since this is not the role of the APC, she referred Rhea to the Assessment Oversight Committee/Shane Drefcinski.
   c. Tim Deis, mathematics, is replacing Steve Kleisath on the APC.

IV. John Krogman distributed copies of the most recent draft of updates to the Strategic Plan, as developed by a small committee of administrators and governance group representatives and amended (so far) by the executive committee of the Student Senate. Other groups will be reviewing this draft in the coming weeks and making additional suggestions for improvement; today is the APC’s turn. Areas discussed and recommendations included:
   • Assessing the Strategic Plan: Assessment is done at the department and program levels, so the plan itself will not be assessed; it will be reviewed and revised over time. John envisions an addendum to the Higher Learning Commission report – a flowchart of how our mission, Strategic Plan, and assessment flow together.
   • Human Resources Theme: The special role of teaching could be stressed more. A new initiative was suggested: Ensure academic quality by recruiting, employing, and retaining highly qualified experts in their fields.
   • High Quality Education Theme, Initiative 11: Instead of focusing on just books and information technology, more inclusive wording of “print, multimedia, and electronic resources” was suggested.
   • Culture Theme, Initiative 1: “Arts and letters” is wording used by accrediting agencies for what we call “Liberal Arts and Education.”
• Vision: To make its meaning clearer, restructuring the vision statement into multiple sentences was suggested.

• Human Resources Theme, Initiative 8: Having salaries competitive with peer institutions has been a problem for many years. Given the current and future budget situations, how are we going to try to achieve it? It is admirable that at least we want to try, but there is no good answer to this. Suggestion: Strike “Continue to” in the wording to be consistent with wording of other initiatives.

• High Quality Education, Initiative 1: To articulate that we want to develop well-rounded students with general reasoning skills, it was suggested that “with analytical and critical thinking skills” be added.

• Fiscal Resources Theme: Several members expressed concern that the Plan doesn’t seem to sufficiently address that we are a teaching university, doesn’t have a focus on this special role, and doesn’t include an initiative about how we allocate resources to teaching. While overall sentiment was that this should be included under the Fiscal Resources Theme, no specific wording was suggested.

• Other specific recommendations should be sent to John. He will be taking a revised draft to Faculty Senate on November 22.

• Motion that the recommendations made in this meeting be incorporated in the Strategic Plan, moved by Carmen and seconded by Brian, was passed.

V. Diana Trendt will be put on the agenda for the December 14 meeting.

VI. Motion to adjourn, moved by Amanda and seconded by Jason, was passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Perkins