Minutes of the Academic Planning Council Meeting
October 13, 2010

Members present: Chuck Cornett, Corinne Enright, Kris Mahoney, Abulkhair Masoom, John Tembei, Jason Thrun, Kay Young

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. Action Item – Cornett made a motion to switch the order of Old Business and New Business for this and future meetings (when appropriate). Masoom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

III. Action Item – Cornett made a motion to approve the agenda and Masoom seconded. The motion carried.

IV. Action Item – Cornett made a motion to approve the minutes from September 22, 2010 and Masoom seconded. The motion carried.

V. New Business

Cathy Riedl-Farrey gave a brief summary of the funding for the university. Of particular interest was a significant increase in federal dollars received, which was attributed to students’ financial aid. Also, Riedl-Farrey predicted UW-Platteville would be required to return $1.2 million to the state following the fall elections.

VI. Old Business

A. The APC still needs an AiTC representative and a UBC representative.

B. Committee members discussed the role of the APC, in general, and the role of the APC in the context of shared governance, in particular. Further clarification is necessary regarding
   i. the role of APC in conjunction with the Academic Master Plan,
   ii. the specific focus and duties of the APC, and
   iii. the position of the APC in the hierarchical structure of faculty governance.

C. Action Item – Cornett made a motion to approve his asking Faculty Senate to define the focus and duties of the APC. Masoom seconded. The motion carried.

D. Committee members discussed how the APC could evaluate the true cost of the minors in a program. Cornett raised the concern that the numbers of minors should not be a sufficient condition to continue offering a minor, identifying the problem that some programs offer too large a selection of courses offerings for a minor. Thrun identified the problem with using the
number of minors as a necessary condition for continuing a minor, stating that some minors are supported by existing service courses and require no additional resources.

E. Committee members made suggestions for revision of the APC Guidelines. Specifically, members discussed reducing the emphasis on assessment and increasing the emphasis on cost efficiency. Cornett suggested the APC develop a cost-efficiency matrix containing information such as cost per major and a comparison of this cost with other programs in the college and at other institutions.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jason Thrun