Minutes of the Academic Planning Council Meeting
November 10, 2010

Members present: Dominic Barraclough, Chuck Cornett, Dawn Drake, Corinne Enright, Kris Mahoney, Abulkhair Masoom, Colleen McCabe, Mittie Nimocks, Adam Stanley, John Tembei, Jason Thrun, Kay Young

Guests present: Hal Evenson, Joanne Wilson, Tim Zauche

1. Chuck Cornett called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Kay Young volunteered to take minutes.

2. The agenda was approved.

3. Dawn Drake moved to approve the minutes of the October 13th meeting. Abulkhair Masoom seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

4. New business

   APC Review of the Health and Physical Education Program

   a. Colleen McCabe presented a report to the APC of the Health and Physical Education Program. She noted that the program is growing and the instructors are realizing the strain. Instructors in the department have worked with prospective employers of graduates from this program, and they have identified several ways to make UWP graduates very employable. Graduates are getting interviews. Discussion followed about physical space needs, grants that might be available and ones the department has obtained, and how many sections are offered even in Winterim and pre- and post-sessions.

   Colleen stressed how the instructors teach students a healthy active lifestyle and the concept that in this field people are educators first and athletes second.

   MEMS-Nanotechnology – Plan to Implement

   b. Hal Evenson presented the APC with the “Proposal for Authorization to Implement a Degree Program in Microsystems and Nanotechnology Engineering”. Discussion ensued. Highlights of the discussion are that six brand new courses will be offered if this new program is implemented. One existing course will disappear. Dawn Drake asked about the cost of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) accreditation, and Hal Evensen noted that there are no ABET accredited programs in MEMS and Nanotechnology at this time in the nation. Abulkhair Masoom asked if it would be a fully accredited program, and Hal answered that yes, it would be.
Adam Stanley asked for a discussion about the ripple effect across campus as the new program is implemented. Chuck Cornett noted that bringing Tri-State Initiative (TSI) students into the only accredited nanotechnology program in a wide area might bring more students than we can serve.

Discussion followed concerning what employers would be looking for in graduates and that students are being advised to get double majors because this program is so new.

Hal Evensen explained that the Nanotechnology Center on campus is for research, stands alone, and will hopefully be self-supporting soon. The new nanotechnology program is separate from the center and is an academic program.

Abulkhair Masoom suggested that in the proposal some course titles are not up-to-date.

Chuck Cornett asked that the proposal be changed to include in writing the need for a new instructor and a new program assistant, since the implementation of the program hinges on those hires.

Discussion followed on the timeline for readings of the proposal before the budget commission and faculty senate and before the Board of Regents.

5. Old Business

Technology Education Discussion

a. Dawn Drake moved and Kris Mahoney seconded a motion to accept the APC Summary of the Review of the Technology Education Program. The motion carried.

Guidelines for the Future Role of the APC

b. Chuck Cornett has informed APC members of the UWP Faculty Constitution’s description of the role of the APC. The description is found in Part II, Article III, Section 2 of the Faculty Constitution.

Mittie Nimocks noted changes are coming with bringing in new programs and with others being “taken offline”. She said though these decisions ultimately end up on her desk and the chancellor’s desk, she would like to see the APC have more involvement in giving recommendations to her and to the chancellor. She wants the decisions and recommendations to be visionary but also be data driven. She wants the APC not to look at programs in isolation with the attitude of “they’re doing good things and they need more staff and money” but instead also look at a bigger picture with thought to, for example, how any program meets the goals of UW-Platteville.
Chuck Cornett stated that the APC has been chartered with more power than they’ve used in recent years, and he would e-mail APC members a link to the Faculty Constitution description noted above.

Chuck then noted because of the length of the meeting, a discussion of APC summaries of recently reviewed programs would be brought up at the next meeting in December.

6. Adjournment
   a. Dawn Drake moved to adjourn at 5:35. It was seconded, and the motion passed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kay Young