Minutes of the Academic Planning Council Meeting
October 8, 2008

Members present: Carol Sue Butts, Linda Bouck, Courtney Brooks, Chuck Cornett, Christina Curras, Mike Dalecki, Bernie Harris, Mark Meyers, Adam Stanley, Jason Thrun

Guests present: Duane Ford, Bill Haskins

I. Chair Mark Meyers called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

II. Announcements: There were no announcements.

III. The minutes of previous meetings will be approved at the next meeting – October 22.

IV. In the APC’s 2006 review of the Master of Science in Project Management online program, the program was approved with the condition that an update be provided in two years. Bill Haskins came to give an update on the program. Key points of the update are:

   a. Courses continue to be developed, revised, and expanded.
   b. An academic advisor staff member was hired, which has had a significant positive impact on the program.
   c. In Summer 2008, the program was accredited by the Project Management Institute (PMI). There are fewer than 20 programs worldwide with such accreditation. The PMI described many strengths of the program, but also required some minor adjustments to the program.
   d. The 2006 APC review listed several specific concerns, and the response to these is as follows:
      i. Administrative structure – The APC was concerned with the use of a Steering Committee as a governing unit. Project Management has not changed this structure as it is working well for them.
      ii. Tenured faculty – The APC was concerned by the lack of tenured or tenure-track faculty teaching in the program. There are currently two tenure track faculty who frequently teach for the program on an overload basis. Most faculty are adjuncts with significant industry experience. The PMI thought that this was a strength of the program.
      iii. Faculty evaluation – The APC was concerned with the lack of a clear plan for evaluating the faculty. Currently tenured/tenure track faculty will be reviewed through the normal RST procedures of their department. Adjunct faculty are reviewed every year by the Graduate Council. Attempts are made to resolve problems, but if problems persist, the person will not hired to teach again.
      iv. Program accreditation – accomplished as noted above.
V. APC committee members were pleased with the information presented in the update, particularly the success of the accreditation. The Project Management program is an example of a successful on-line program, and faculty and staff should be commended for their efforts in growing the program. The lack of on-campus faculty dedicated to this program is still a concern, and as the program grows Project Management is encouraged to find ways to fund and promote more on-campus support.

VI. The Philosophy program will be presenting at the October 22 meeting.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m..

Respectfully submitted by Christina Curras