Minutes of the Academic Planning Council meeting

April 13, 2011

Members present: Chuck Cornett, Colleen McCabe, Jason Thrun, Adam Stanley, Dawn Drake, Corinne Enright, John Tembei, Kay Young, Mitte Nimocks, and Kris Mahoney

Guests present: Dominic Barraclough, Alison Bunte, Wendy Brooke, Elizabeth Swift, Duane Ford, Susan Hansen, and John Rink

1. Chuck Cornett called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.
2. Colleen McCabe moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Adam Stanley and the motion carried.
3. Jason Thrun moved to approve the minutes of the minutes of the April 23rd meeting. The motion was seconded by Dawn Drake and the motion carried.

4. New Business
   a. 2nd Reading for Integrated Supply Chain Management (MS), Distance Education Leadership (MS), and Organizational Change (MS)

      Dawn Drake moved to approve the 2nd Readings. The motion was seconded by Corinne Enright and the motion carried. The proposals will be sent off to Faculty Senate.

   b. Teacher Education (BS and MS) Reviews

      Colleen McCabe stated that the two reviews should be viewed as one document. Adam Stanley discussed a School of Education internal survey that improved goals based on the results. Mitte Nimocks asked if a professional advisor was needed and could be hired. McCabe confirmed the need, especially for high risk or transfer students. Chuck Cornett expressed concerns over increasing student numbers and decreasing faculty numbers. McCabe stated that the program will have one new hire next year and in the interim overload has been used to solve the gap. Alison Bunte reported that adjuncts are easy to find because of the increasing number retired principals and teachers looking for a second career. Cornett inquired about the job market. Bunte reported that positions aren’t as attractive as they once were, yet 60 to 70% of students that wish to stay in southwest Wisconsin can get a job compared to nearly 100% if they are willing to leave the area. Nimocks express concerns that Early Childhood was bulging at the seams and inquired about placing an enrollment cap based on higher admittance standards. Bunte stated that this was discussed among the faculty, but they don’t want it. Dawn Drake suggested placing a freeze on School of Education admittance. Cornett felt that increasing students and decreasing faculty was a recipe for disaster. McCabe stated some of the faculty are not reluctant for changing admission standards to ease enrollment pressures. Drake suggested that a plan for the future should be required to submit to APC. Nimocks stated that an enrollment cap should be implemented by raising admission standards. Cornett inquired as to if there are problems with failed search and screens because of low starting salaries.
Adam Stanley moved to recommend implementing an enrollment cap in the School of Education to help resolve current issues and to return to APC in two years. The motion was seconded by Dawn Drake and the motion carried.

c. Political Science Review

John Rink reported that student enrollment numbers are increasing which is causing stress on the program. Rink stated that stress could be relieved if a member of faculty could be moved onto a tenure track. Rink also reported that the Pre Law program and Mock Trial were successful. Kay Young expressed concerns that the Law Library was housed in the department and it should at least be cataloged to help increase student access. Dawn Drake questioned whether the Pre Law program was actually needed. Chuck Cornett stated that moving a faculty to a tenure track position would not help program stress and that based on the FTE/SCH figures the program was not under much stress. Mitte Nimocks concurred with Cornett in that flexibility is needed in departments and that academic staff offer that flexibility.

Adam Stanley moved to approve continuing Political Science. The motion was seconded by Corinne Enright and the motion carried.

5. Old Business

a. Adam Stanley moved to table the Accounting Program’s official summary. The motion was seconded by Corinne Enright and the motion carried.

b. Chuck Cornett reported that the urgent renovations identified in the Theater Program review were going well and that an engineer was to be looking at the facilities.

c. Jason Thrun again discussed the possibility that APC does not conduct reviews next year in order to clearly define the mission and objectives. Chuck Cornett stated that he presented this idea to Faculty Senate and heard no objections.

6. John Tembei moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chuck Cornett and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kris Mahoney