Improvement of Learning Committee  
Tuesday, April 6, 2010  
4:00 p.m. – 1510 Ullsvik Hall  

Members in attendance: Keith Becker, Cathy Cornett, Shane Drefcinski, Provost Duane Ford, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haertzen, Rea Kirk, Sydney Kronkow, Tom LoGuidice, Leonida Ljumanovic, Syed Moiz, Tera Montgomery, Esther Ofulue, Adam Stanley, Keith Thompson, Joanne Wilson  

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

Approval of Minutes  
Tom LoGuidice moved to approve the minutes from March 2; seconded by Keith Thompson. Motion approved.  

Announcements  
Provost Ford announced that the search for Teaching Excellence Center co-directors had yielded three individual applications, as well as an application from a two-person team. The search committee anticipates making a decision in the next few weeks.  

Provost Ford announced that the Ad Astra scheduling software system will be used at UWP starting in spring 2011. It is designed to allocate room assignments for classes more efficiently. However, course times and labs will still be set by each department. This system will effect the elimination of TuTh courses that meet for one hour one day and two hours the other; instead, TuTh classes will go to a 78-minute slot per session.  

Provost Ford announced that Dennis Shields is scheduled to be confirmed as UWP Chancellor by the Board of Regents on April 9. Meanwhile, there were some 60 applicants for the Provost position; finalists will likely be on campus in early May.  

New Business: Update on OPID Proposals  
Shane Drefcinski noted that the Stylus project put forward by Kory Wein et al did receive some funding from OPID.  

New Business: CIF Proposal Recommendations  
The CIF/SOTL subcommittee (Tom LoGuidice, Esther Ofulue, Adam Stanley, Keith Thompson) presented its recommendations. The subcommittee noted that this year’s pool of applicants was relatively small, and several of the proposals did not make particularly strong cases for funding on the basis of breadth of project, number of students affected, emphasis on diversity and international education, etc. The subcommittee distributed three possible scenarios for funding this year’s CIF proposals (no SOTL proposals were submitted). All three options included funding the top four applications in full, but differed as to how—or whether—to distribute funds among the other proposals. There was discussion of what would happen to CIF funds if the entire $22,000 allotment was not awarded; all CIF funds originate locally, so excess money would not have to be returned to System, but at the same time there is no procedure for rolling funds over to
next year. Instead, any unassigned funds would be put to use at the discretion of UWP administration.

The committee discussed the need to revise the CIF guidelines to state in more effective terms what the committee will look for in proposals that wish to qualify for funding.

Esther Ofulue moved to approve a modified version of the subcommittee’s Option A for funding; under this motion, the subcommittee’s six highest-ranked proposals would be funded in full at $3000 each, with the remaining $4000 left unused. Shane Drefcinski seconded. Motion approved.

New Business: Other
Beth Frieders provided an update on Closing the Achievement Gap proposals. The revised proposals were to be reviewed at this ILC meeting, but the committee has not yet heard back from Joe Lomax, who submitted both of the preliminary proposals discussed earlier this year. The committee will try to contact Joe Lomax, as well as Kathy Lomax in Sponsored Programs, for a status update. The committee agreed that if Joe Lomax wanted to send a proposal forward, expedited approval of that could be arranged in order to meet the System deadline.

Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The next ILC meeting will be on April 20 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted—
Adam Stanley