Academic Standards Committee
Revised Nov. 9, 2005 Minutes

The meeting began at 4:00 PM with Tim Zauche, David Kraemer, Kevin Haertzen, Dennis Ciesielski, David Krugler, David Kraemer, Steve Kleisath, Angela Udelhofen, David Van Buren, Shane Drefcinski and Scott White present.

Dennis Ciesielski noted that the minutes from the Oct. 12 meeting did not reflect a question he had asked of Angela Udelhofen. The question was regarding the ability of TSI students to change to another academic major. Angela had indicated that students who arrive on campus as a TSI student in one of the technical majors, but later decide to change majors, may change to majors representing about 80% of the total number of majors available at the university.

This observation regarding the minutes led to a lengthy discussion. The discussion focused on which majors are appropriate for TSI students to declare and still remain in the TSI program. Dennis Ciesielski and David Krugler noted their concerns that many students in teaching also get majors in history or English and a TSI student switching away from a technical major would not be able to select one of those two majors.

The committee noted its general level of confusion with the list of majors eligible for inclusion into the TSI framework. David Krugler noted some inconsistencies and perhaps misleading statements in our university promotional materials. He suggested that we invite Provost Carol Sue Butts and Mick Viney to attend one of our meetings to discuss TSI students changing their declared majors. We might also wish to review university promotional materials to ensure their accuracy.

Tim Zauche noted the minutes from the Oct. 12 meeting also had an incorrect Sept. 7 meeting date on the document. The minutes, as corrected by the discussion, were adopted by the committee.

Angela Udelhofen reported on student recruitment statistics. The Admissions Office received 1,600 applications and has admitted 1,061 students. Those figures include 245 TSI student applicants; 155 of the TSI group have been admitted. The university’s TSI target numbers are 350-400 students, with 100 of those as transfer students. The number of admitted students is 4% higher than last year. The high school seniors are slow in making their applications this year. There has been a marked increase in applications in the last few weeks. The number of students attending Pioneer Preview is much higher.

Tim Zauche said UWP admits 300 transfer students each year and asked if our committee should study transfer students. Steve Kleisath stated the university has treated transfer students abysmally. Kleisath noted there are many problems with transfer credits, notably for transfers from vocational-technical colleges. Students may transfer to UWP in one major and then find their transfer credits are rejected if the transfer students later change majors. This situation reflects the use of individual program-to-program articulation agreements.
Angela Udelhofen indicated she is able to track transfer students but can not follow their educational progress should they leave UWP. She is aware of a graduate student research proposal for studying transfer student satisfaction. The proposed study could provide valuable information on transfer students.

David Van Buren said transfer students must have a 2.0 GPA prior to admission to UWP. In an answer to a question from David Krugler, Van Buren stated that he did not believe transfer students required large numbers of program deviations except in the area of the requirement for 40 credits of 3000-level classes.

Tim Zauke suggested that the committee wait to study transfer students.

The committee consensus was to invite Mick Viney and Carol Sue Butts to our next meeting. The purpose will be to discuss the number of majors that TSI students may select if a TSI student decides to change majors after starting classes at UWP.

The committee’s next meeting is Dec. 14. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Submitted by:

Scott A. White, secretary