The meeting began at 4:04 P.M. Present were Tim Zauche, David Krugler, Frank Steck, Deborah Gillespie, David Kraemer, Dennis Ciesielski, Shane Drefcinski, David Van Buren, Kevin Haertzen and Scott White.

The minutes of November 9, 2005 were approved with a few spelling errors corrected.

Tim Zauche reported on his discussion with Carol Sue Butts and Mick Viney regarding the Tri-State Initiative (TSI). Tim asked Carol Sue Butts a question on who was making the decisions regarding changes in TSI policies. Carol Sue indicated she was making those decisions and that the changes, in her opinion, were within the scope of the original TSI plan.

Tim said the number of students admitted into the TSI program was about ten percent higher than last year at this time. It is not clear how many students will actually enroll at UWP. David Van Buren added that it will take a “couple of years of admission experience” before we are able to predict the yield rate of TSI students admitted to the university.

David Krugler asked a question regarding the university policy on TSI students switching their majors after they enroll at UWP. Tim indicated Mick Viney will meet with a TSI student who decides to switch his or her major to a major that is not on the approved list and that the TSI student will be advised that the student “might lose TSI status.” David Krugler stated his opinion that this interfered with the traditional faculty advising role and that faculty should be assisting students with those decisions.

David Van Buren then said the provost had indicated to him that the key date for determining whether a student qualifies for the TSI tuition rate is at the time of application to the university. Thus a person admitted to the university and who declared a major on the list of approved TSI majors, should be able to continue to receive that TSI tuition rate even if the student later changes to a non-TSI major.

Tim said he spoke to Angela Udelhofen about recruitment issues. Angela asked for faculty support in the recruiting process, especially in attending recruitment receptions.

Frank Steck stated his surprise that the Technology Education major was not on the list of approved majors for the TSI program.

Tim next reviewed several topics for the agenda of future committee meetings. He noted every campus is to adopt a new holistic admission policy by May 2006. In holistic admission standards we are to examine the record of prospective students as a whole rather than on narrow grounds such as ACT scores.
In February, we will meet with Mick Viney regarding TSI admission policies. We will then meet with him once a year in following years.

A third topic for future meetings relates to the English and Math placement exams. The committee discussed whether these tests should be studied. Students are taking many more remedial math courses this year.

Scott White asked if the placement tests were considered effective in placing students in an appropriate course. Kevin Haertzen thought the math test ineffective because it tests algebra skills at a time when many high school students have not taken a recent algebra course. He believes this places students in remedial courses who could succeed in a higher math class if the students received a short review of algebra rather than having to take the entire intermediate algebra course.

Deborah Gillespie said she has quite a few unqualified students in English 1130. Dennis Cieselski said he also saw many unqualified students in his classes.

Finally, we need to study admission standards for transfer students. We also should determine the extent of our role in general education in light of the fact that the Assessment Oversight Committee is playing the leading role in general education.

The next committee meeting is February 8. The meeting adjourned at 4:58 P.M.

Submitted by:

Scott A. White, Secretary