

**INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 21, 2008**

PRESENT: President Philip Glotzbach, Chair; Professor Mark Huibregtse, Vice Chair; Mary Lou Bates, Deb Hall, Ann Henderson, Susan Kress, Pat Oles, Jeff Segrave, Justin Sipher, Michael West; Mehmet Odekon, Barbara McDonough; Mary Cogan, Sue Bender, Jonathan Brestoff; Rob Hill; Barbara Krause (Secretary).

ABSENT: Michael Casey, Muriel Poston, Sue VanHook.

1. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of February 29, 2008 were approved as distributed.

2. Introduction of new member

administrative resources would need to be redirected from other, already very busy offices, the student enrollment population has already decreased to 120 students, and there is now significant external competition from other on-line education programs. Vice President Kress noted that UWW's mission historically. As we move forward, however, we

It was noted that it may be easier for the administration to advocate its position than it is for UWW students and staff to advocate for continuation of the program.

There was discussion about how to frame the question regarding UWW. Is the question whether the program should close, or whether the program should be closed or restructured? Several people acknowledged that the decision makers must understand all costs (in terms of time, financial resources, and attention) of all options. These costs include the costs of choosing one option as well as the cost of not being able to do other things.

It was noted by a faculty member that academic sta

It is important not only that IPPC consider this question of institutional resources, but also that the faculty consider where they wish the College to commit the resources of time, money and faculty lines to required to sustain UWW at the desired level of excellence.

The UWW product may be superior to other distance learning programs, but is there a market for that level of excellence, and will people pay the premium?

IPPC member Mary Cogan, who serves as Assistant to the Director and Coordinator of Academic Records at UWW, made the following comments:

It is important to provide opportunities for people to learn about and consider the possible options related to UWW. Indications that the Board of Trustees could consider the closure recommendation at its May meeting feel rushed to some people, especially those most directly affected.

or perhaps even inaccurate. For example, the statement that enrollment has dropped from 250 to 120 is a result of work done by UWW staff to clean up their enrollment figures, not an actual decrease in the number of students.

The restructuring in the VPAA area and turnover in the Office of the Dean of Special Education has made it difficult for UWW to sustain any forward momentum. UWW also has been challenged by senior faculty members who discourage junior faculty members from participating in UWW.

Although UWW requires only twelve Skidmore credits, the average number of Skidmore credits over the past several years has been in the range of twenty-five credits.

UWW staff have many ideas for improving the program and, most of all, a passion for their work. Could we take some additional time to consider all of the options and allow a broader participation in the discussions?

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participate in UWW type courses?

President Glotzbach thanked Mary Cogan for her remarks, particularly in light of her personal

that closure was on the table, the recommendation is now before the community and will be deliberated with great care.

President Glotzbach then asked where these future conversations should occur and what role IPPC should have in the deliberations. He noted that, in his opinion, it was indeed the administ