Minutes from the
Institutional Planning Council Meeting

April 13, 2005


President Gulley set the stage for the one item of discussion for the meeting, which is the future of IPC. He gave historical information about the formation of the IPC and its original purpose, and shared with the committee the recent statement defining the IPC’s purpose and make up (although certain director-level people were not mentioned in the statement) for the committee’s review. He noted the general and widespread dissatisfaction with the current state of IPC, which seems more focused on a reporting and information sharing function than a planning function.

Responses to the President’s opening remarks confirmed that the membership desire for the committee to remain active, but with greater substance. The view is that this is the only body in the life of the College that is truly cross-constituent represented, and that we should not lose the opportunity for potentially important dialogue about the College and its future in this group. A number of proposals were floated for consideration for greater exploration by the group, including the group having more of a long-term planning focus. It was also suggested that the committee meet less frequently, and perhaps at least annually in a retreat format. There seemed strong interest in the group staying in touch with the strategic planning process and receiving periodic updates on the status of the three strategic objectives—enrollment, academic rigor, and library.

The meeting ended with an important deliberation about the uniform rigor and substance of all of the College’s degree programs—day programs versus evening and Albany. It was noted that this topic would be worthy of thoughtful consideration by the group in a future meeting.

No next steps were agreed upon, although President Gulley will take the deliberations under advisement and reach judgments about how the IPC will operate during the 2005-06 academic year.

The meeting ended at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

F. Stuart Gulley