

Criterion Committee 2: Preparing for the Future
Meeting Minutes March 2, 2006
Old Main Conference Room, 3:30 pm

Members Present: Gary Johnson, Sue Wright, Sally Beisser, Paul Morris, Susan Ladd, Ronald Troyer, Joe Lenz.

Evidence of Planning: Sue distributed a table, organized by component, example of evidence, source (that is, where it can be found or who is responsible for it), and notes. She explained that she was more focused on the sources of evidence at the moment, and that the committee might provide explanatory notes later.

Attention turned to the list of evidence and its sources. Troyer observed that it would be important to produce a reader-friendly document, and that rather than be encyclopedic, we might prioritize evidence – primary, secondary, etc. Thus, Vicki Payseur’s report to the Board of Trustees would be primary evidence that “the organization’s resource base supports its educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future” (Component 2b). Documentation of Faculty Development funds from the colleges, or HR’s staff development program, the classroom remodeling, and the Centers of Global Citizenship and Digital Technology would be secondary.

A tangential discussion developed around how best to document the classroom renovations, with the suggestion that before-and-after photographs be used, a task that may be referred to Marketing. Sue Wright also posed a question about how to document that the university is making decisions based on assessment that it is conducting (2c). Here such things as action taken following recommendation reports of accreditation visits or program review, and HR’s annual performance reviews of staff, were suggested.

In the end, discussion returned to the explanatory narrative that would contextualize the evidence. Troyer wondered whether we should provide a short paragraph to frame the evidence for each component. The committee paused for a moment over that, as we had been thinking in terms of trees rather than forests. Joe Lenz was volunteered to draft a sample paragraph for one of the components, and to circulate it to those present for comment. If this idea works, then the committee would develop paragraphs for each of the remaining components.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 6, 3:30**, Old Main Conference Room. Also please reserve 4/13 and 4/20, as one of those two dates will be needed.