Strategic Planning Council
March 17, 2006


The next meetings of the Council will be:
- Wed., April 12, 9-11 am, CEB 301 (Review 1-page proposals)
- Friday, April 21, 12-2 pm SHW 201 (Meeting with Dr. Arévalo, lunch provided)
- Friday, May 12, 12-2 pm SHW 201 (Meeting)

SP Pool Grant Update
MJ has received two 1-page proposals so far (four as of March 23). In response to a question from the Teaching & Learning Center, the Council determined that proposals are acceptable if they involve the Center and specific named departments in projects in which the Center provides value-added services. The intent is not to have the Center be merely a pass-through to departments or faculty for stipend dollars.

The Council agreed to the request by Wendy Repovich to extend the terms of her grant through the next cycle, due to her partner’s ill health. The Council stipulated that Dr. Repovich submit a new budget, that no additional dollars would be available and that the grant would expire after June 2007. In regard to Brian Spraggins’ proposal, the Council agreed to roll over the dollars to the next pool. It regrets that the proposal for a Transfer Student Center could not be implemented by anyone else.

Key Performance Indicators
The Council discussed how the university could move forward to develop measurable indicators for our priority goals and at the same time encourage departments and colleges to develop strategic plans and indicators aligned with the institutions goals.

Marilyn’s concern was that the process not be top-down. Ray noted that it is important that the data that departments need to measure their progress in retention be available before they begin to write their plans. Ron reminded the group that EWU will need both immediate and longterm measures since we are facing both a short-term enrollment challenge and a longterm retention issues. Sally reminded the Council that we should continue to link our priority indicators to the values and goals of our academic strategic plan.

It was suggested that the Council sponsor a ½-day event for all of the campus in the fall to bring everyone together to discuss relevant measurements for our goals. The overarching theme of the day would be retention, around which participants would weave the strategic planning goals to create measurements for their departments. Classes should be cancelled and the agenda include information on the urgency of
addressing our retention priority, the values of the strategic plan, and then provide an opportunity for small groups to focus on how colleges and departments can align with the institutional indicators. The hope is that Dr. Arévalo can use his Fall Gathering to unite the campus around our goals and involve faculty and staff in linking to the performance indicators now being developed. The Council will discuss this during the April meeting.

Linda suggested that we assemble information on retention strategies so that as colleges and departments are creating their plans they have resources to use. This could be on a website that could be developed immediately.

The Council then discussed a timeline that would enable participation by the Senate as well as a fall campus-wide event. The timeline will be distributed to all members for approval, then presented to the Cabinet on April 10 and discussed further with Dr. Arévalo on April 21.

Action:
The Council created a proposed timeline for involving the campus in creating measurable indicators and college and department plans (attached).

The timeline will be discussed with the Cabinet and the Senate for refinement in April.

Faculty Fellows
Ron outlined the current arrangement of Faculty Fellows. The tenure for the Fellow for Service Learning will expire in June. The Gen Ed Fellow will continue through next year to complete the review process. He also suggested that the Academic Integrity Fellow be phased out, although training and institutional commitment to academic integrity will continue.

The Council asked to continue the discussion at the next meeting because of time constraints. Ray suggested that if we are considering adding another Fellow position that it might be in assessment or retention.