I. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by J. Stephen, seconded by L. Derscheid, to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

II. Announcements

A. Electronic Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 1, 2007, meeting were electronically approved.

B. Student Information Systems Update

E. Seaver reported that the new student information system is now approximately 50 percent along in the implementation process. Meetings are underway with the colleges to discuss functionality and security access issues. The colleges are being given a preview of portions of the new system that faculty and advisors will be able to view and are being asked to provide additional information regarding any other particular tasks that will need to be performed by specified individuals. He noted that this is the most critical part of the process as it is important that the system be able to perform the tasks that need to be carried out.
L. Derscheid asked if the new system would be replacing the current access that faculty as advisors have to student information. E. Seaver answered that CICSPROD and Webconnect would be eliminated, but all faculty will have access to what is termed the “faculty” page. He explained that when a student registers for a class, it will populate within the faculty member’s page so that the faculty member will be able to view course rosters and contact students. Advisors and faculty will have different access services, and screens will be different for individual access.

E. Seaver indicated that the new system will be implemented before the start of registration for Fall 2008. He suggested that the NIU Connect Project Manager be invited to make a presentation and/or walk-through of the new system to UCC at one of the last two meetings of this academic year.

III. Reports/Minutes from Standing Committees

A. Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee – W. Goldenberg

W. Goldenberg reported that at the November 29, 2006, APASC meeting, the committee discussed the repeat grade policy and approved the repeat policy to be that, in approved third or subsequent enrollments, the grade earned during the last enrollment will be used in the GPA calculation. Several other catalog wording changes were also approved.

W. Goldenberg made a motion, seconded by J. Corwin, to receive the November 29, 2006, minutes of the Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee meeting. The motion carried.

B. General Education Committee – J. Stephen

J. Stephen reported that at the February 15, 2007, GEC meeting, the committee received materials for and began review of several general education resubmissions.

J. Stephen made a motion, seconded by J. Corwin, to receive the February 15, 2007, minutes of the General Education Committee meeting. The motion carried.

C. Honors Committee – W. Goldenberg

W. Goldenberg reported on the February 2, 2007, Honors Committee meeting. In addition to reports from the directors and coordinators, the committee reviewed an EYE Grant submission and received an update on the progress of the Honors Long Range Planning Committee. Mission, Vision and Value statements developed by the Long Range Planning Committee were presented to
the Honors Committee for review. Discussion centered on the next steps and direction to be taken to improve the Honors Program.

E. Seaver added that the Honors Long Range Planning Committee has been working on specific goals and at the next Honors Committee meeting will present a general outline of the goals in terms of the kind of experiences in which Honors students participate, funding for honors students, and discussion of expansion of the Honors Program in the colleges and departments. One of the strategic goals being discussed is moving from an Honors Program to an Honors College and what steps have to be taken to meet that goal. He noted that there are multiple models of Honors Colleges, and a plan needs to be developed to see what will fit with NIU. Much of what is being discussed to improve the Honors Program is what would ultimately lead to a self-defined Honors College. The strategic areas have been identified by the Long Range Planning committee, but now initiatives must be developed, as well as what steps are necessary to get there, which, in turn, leads to the aspect of funding. He also stated that much of the committee’s discussion has centered on not what an Honors College should be but rather what the Honors experience should be in terms of beyond the classroom and the teaching environment. The intent is that the strategic planning will be completed by the end of this spring semester.

W. Goldenberg made a motion, seconded by J. Corwin, to receive the February 2, 2007, minutes of the University Honors Committee meeting. The motion carried.

D. Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education – M. Van Wienen

Although there were no minutes to receive, M. Van Wienen informally reported that at the last CIUE committee meeting on February 5, 2007, the committee awarded funds for summer grants, projects, and software acquisition grants.

E. Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Environment – C. T. Lin

There was no report.

F. Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum – R. Beatty

R. Beatty reported that the February 8, 2007, meeting of the Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum largely concentrated on course approval for new courses for the Center for Black Studies. To help the committee understand the content and structure of the courses, a presentation was offered to the committee by S. Todd Yeary of the Center for Black Studies.
R. Beatty made a motion, seconded by J. Corwin, to receive the February 8, 2007, minutes of the Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee meeting. The motion carried.

IV. Other Reports

A. University Assessment Panel

No verbal report was given, however, UCC committee members reviewed notes from the University Assessment Panel meeting of February 2, 2007.

J. Stephen made a motion, seconded by J. Corwin, to receive the February 2, 2007, meeting notes of the University Assessment Panel. The motion carried.

V. Old Business

A. Date of UCC Retreat

E. Seaver reported that he and Provost Alden have not yet had an opportunity to discuss a date for a UCC Retreat, however, he will talk to Provost Alden about it in more detail at their next meeting.

VI. New Business

A. Student Representative to University Assessment Panel

As a new student member attended this UCC meeting for the first time and neither of the other student representatives have a class schedule that will allow them to attend University Assessment Panel meetings, E. Seaver suggested that the UCC students meet with him as a group after the meeting to discuss the possibility of rotating attendance at the UAP meetings for the rest of the spring semester.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. The next UCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 5, 2007, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in Altgeld Hall 203.

Respectfully submitted,
Mollie Montgomery