The APBC is comprised of 16 members: 11 faculty (appointed/elected reps from the four divisions; a rep from the UC; chairs of GFC and APCC); 3 academic staff members, including a rep from the ASC; a rep from the Academic Deans Council; the Provost or their designee. The functions of the APBC are to make recommendations to the faculty and to campus administration regarding (a) short range and long range academic plans for the campus that are consistent with the mission of the campus, and (b) budgetary implications of those plans.

The Committee met 15 times during Academic Year 2007-08. Minutes for each meeting are available on the APBC website http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/apbc/index.html.

Major agenda items considered throughout the year were the 2007-09 UWM Budget/DIN, the 2009-11 biennial budget planning/DIN proposal, campus master planning, review of UWM centers and the proposals for two new schools -- Public Health and Freshwater Sciences.

2007-09 Budget/DIN I: Prior to legislative approval of the current budget, the Committee monitored the State’s budget process and discussed how various scenarios, including the eventual $6.4M budget lapse, would impact academic plans. Ultimately, the UWM Growth Initiative was supported and UWM received $10M through the approved State biennial budget. Chancellor Santiago and Colin Scanes, Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development/Dean of the Graduate School, met with APBC to discuss DIN implementation of cluster hiring (esp. in health care, automation, water, biomedical engineering); the Wisconsin Initiative for Biomedical and Health Technologies (WIBHT); the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP); graduate student support and funding for the Research Growth Initiative (RGI). In February, the Committee provided feedback to Mark Harris, Associate Dean for Research, Graduate School, following his presentation of the “Annual Report on the Research Growth Initiative.”

2009-11 Budget Planning/DIN II: Through presentations and discussions with Chancellor Santiago and Vice Chancellor/Provost Cheng, the Committee was regularly updated on plans to build on DIN I investments with the request for $11.4M in new base funding, providing for 59 new faculty, 2 deans and 7 academic staff members, as well as support for UROP, graduate students, RGI and research infrastructure. Though members expressed concerns about the need to support ongoing programs outside of the targeted areas, there was no disagreement with the Chancellor’s observations that UWM is under funded, a major research university is needed in Milwaukee, investment in UWM will impact regional economic development and that it is a critical juncture in the history of UWM.

Campus Master Plan (CMP): The Committee, both collectively and individually, took a very active role in the lead-up and launch of the two-year, $3M CMP process. APBC recommendations were adopted for adding representatives to committee structure, for organizing and drafting of the questionnaire sent to all units and for implementation of the planning process with a closer connection to shared governance. APBC met regularly to receive updates and offer critique to Campus Support Team members Patricia Arredondo, Chris Gluesing and Ruth Williams. There was also discussion with chairs of two Subcommittees, Lee Ann Garrison (Liberal Arts & Professions) and Mary Lou Gelfer (Health Disciplines), two members of the HGA/Sasaki consulting team, D’Andre Willis and Lora Strigens, and with Jon Jensen from the WI Dept. of Administration. Swarnjit Arora was appointed as APBC Faculty Rep. to the Coordinating Committee and Rob Yeo, as APBC Chair, serves on the Steering Committee.
Review of UWM Centers: Following on past efforts of the APBC to identify existing UWM centers, to institute a regular schedule for their evaluation and to provide recommendations about them, the Committee moved ahead with the review of 71 campus centers. Questionnaires, including the new “Center Budget Template,” were distributed via deans and directors with the intention of reviewing results in Fall 2009. In 2006-07, a pilot was conducted with four centers. Those results indicate that one of the most challenging aspects of this exercise will be to obtain accurate and consistent data, due to differing missions, lack of common identifiers and various accounting methods. Not all centers have separate UDDS-coded accounts and funds may be intertwined. One early result of this review is to highlight the need for a uniform accounting system -- a key to planning and evaluation.

Proposals for New Schools: Critical review of plans for establishing a School of Public Health began in January. APBC provided recommendations for strengthening the proposal, including a timeline for accreditation and a detailed outline of the administrative structure, especially necessary as the faculty will comprise 5 different areas in a non-departmentalized school. The Committee also requested clarification on budget details and the relationship of the new SPH to existing schools on campus. On 4/10/08, the Committee evaluated the final draft of the document in terms of budget and planning and voted unanimously to recommend that the Faculty Senate approve the authorization to implement the School of Public Health.

The Committee met with members of the School of Freshwater Sciences Planning Team, Reinhold Hutz (Chair), Rudi Strickler and Val Klump to review the proposal for a new school that will bring academic programs to the well-established Great Lakes Research Institute. Critique of the SFS proposal was completed in a compressed time frame, with members of the APBC offering questions, suggestions and rewrites of sections of the proposal. Development of a timeline, an organizational structure and a plan for converting academic staff positions into faculty were central concerns of the Committee. On 4/14/08, the Committee evaluated the draft of the document in terms of budget and planning and voted to recommend that the Faculty Senate approve the authorization to implement the School of Freshwater Sciences (8-2). Following the positive vote, members Margo Anderson, Jack Johnson and Donald Solomon worked with Associate Vice Chancellor Dev Venugopalan to further refine the document prior to its consideration by the Faculty Senate.

On 4/17/08, R. Yeo presented results of the two votes and a summary of the deliberations of the APBC to the Faculty Senate. In May, the “Request for Authorization to Implement a Doctoral Degree in Environmental and Occupational Health” in the SPH was reviewed and critiqued. Detailed recommendations for strengthening the document were provided.

Agenda items for 2008-09 are expected to include some issues that were initiated this year: the 2009-11 Budget/DIN II, Academic Planning and the Campus Master Plan, the UWM Center Review.

Due to personnel changes in the Secretary of the University’s Office, they were unable to provide support for APBC meetings this year, leading to delays in completing meeting minutes. We have received assurance that the Committee will receive full support for meetings in 2008-09.


Attending regularly as guests were Patricia Arredondo, Mark Harris, Ed Mabry & Ruth Williams. Other
guests were Christopher Gluesing, Bonnie Halvorsen, Reinhold Hutz, Jon Jensen (WI DOA), Val Klump, Lee Ann Garrison, Marylou Gelfer, Jay Moore, Steve Percy, David Petering, Carlos Santiago, Colin Scanes, Rudy Strickler, Lora Strigens (HGA), Dev Venugopalan and d’Andre Willis (HGA).

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Yeo, Chair
(08/15/08)