

**PIE Council Minutes**  
**September 21, 2007**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
**Welty Boardroom**

Members Present: Irene Miller, Eric Daffron, Shaochen Yang, James Ward, Marie Byrne, Sally Pearson, Twila Alpe, Dave Haffly, Amy Swingle, Nathan Wilson, Nora Miller, Gary Bouse, Lynne Curtis, Claudia Limbert, Carla Lowery, Gloria Bunnell, Patricia Donat (Chair)

Members Absent: Nicole Dilg, Randy Stewart, Bobby Fugitt, Mark Bean, Larry Jones, Tina Blackwell, Cassie Derden, Perry Sansing, and John Davis

Items Distributed: Agenda, Minutes of April 20, 2007, Commencement Survey 2007, IHL Strategic Plan & Performance Indicators: MUW Statistics, IHL Metrics, and W-2009 A Strategic Plan for MUW

The minutes from the April 20, 2007 meeting were approved by Council members.

Carla Lowery gave a PowerPoint presentation on the 2007 Commencement Survey. This is the second year Class Climate has been used for this survey. We had 328 responses in 2007, as compared to 333 responses in 2006. The demographics of respondents showed that 65% of our students transferred from another college and 42% were over the age of 25. The major reasons for choosing MUW were nearby location (28.2%) and program availability (21.4%). Areas with the lowest student ratings were commuter student services (2.76) and food service (2.57). Areas with the highest student ratings were present attitude toward degree major (1.38) and faculty-student interaction (1.44). Additional questions found that 95% of students were satisfied with the overall quality of their educational experience; 82% were satisfied with the overall student services provided; and 64% planned to join the alumni association (up 20% from last year). On financial aid questions, 90% of respondents received financial assistance and 80% rated the financial aid process excellent or good. The complete Commencement Survey is located in WebCT. Council members asked if we could pull out the parking issue from the survey next spring and if we could add a question to differentiate resident students from commuting students.

Dr. Donat gave a PowerPoint presentation on IHL Strategic Plan and Performance Indicators: MUW Statistics. The first area covered was retention and graduation rates for first-time, full-time freshman. MUW is below the target

for retention (~74%). In fact, we dropped 4.5% this year. This is a cause for concern. Our 6-year graduation rate in 2002 looks much better and is at the IHL target (~40%). Dr. Donat reported that we do have best practices interventions in place whereby we track attendance and low grades, follow-up with students not prescheduled, etc. We are presently looking at our instruction methods. The math department is investigating different teaching models such as those developed by Carol Twigg.

The IHL goal for admissions is to increase community college transfers and first-time, full-time freshman. Our goal at MUW is to increase enrollment in all areas.

The IHL goal for online courses is to increase distance-learning opportunities. Here at MUW in the fall of 2006, 58 faculty members used WebCT. In the spring of 2007, 80 faculty members used WebCT. Of our full time faculty members, 44% used WebCT in the fall of 2006 and 61% used WebCT in the spring of 2007.

The IHL has a goal to pursue more non-traditional students. Our enrollment for non-traditional students was higher in 2000 and 2001 due to the fact that we were offering more one-credit-hour courses. The enrollment figures currently reported are more representative of our non-traditional student headcount. Also, the IHL wants institutions to help more part-time students gain access to higher education.

Students with ACT subscores of 16 or below are required to take the corresponding intermediate courses. As our enrollment increases, the number of students enrolled in intermediate courses has increased. This trend continued this year even with the drop in overall enrollment. The IHL goal is to implement best practices in remediation. Again, we are looking at teaching models such as those developed by Carol Twigg to help us be more successful.

The IHL goal is to increase the passage-rate on the NCLEX and the PRAXIS. In 2003-2004, our passage-rate on the NCLEX was slightly lower due to required curriculum alignment. Overall passage rates are very high. Passing scores on the PRAXIS are required for admission to student teaching at MUW. Therefore, MUW has a 100% pass-rate on the PRAXIS.

The IHL has a goal of increasing need-based financial aid. At MUW in 2006, the number of Pell Grant recipients was up due to a change in eligibility requirements. 2007 is still in-process, but will likely be consistent with 2006.

SACS has a requirement that 25% of credit hours by discipline be taught by faculty members with a terminal degree. This requirement in the areas of nursing, accounting, and MIS may need to be examined carefully as these areas have a lower percentage of faculty members with terminal degrees.

Dr. Donat distributed IHL Metrics. The IHL will begin the process of overall public reporting of metrics for both 2-year and 4-year institutions.

Dr. Donat also distributed the W-2009 goals and strategic objectives. During the next year, Dr. Donat will report on progress toward meeting the objectives listed in preparation for the development of a new strategic plan in fall of 2008 or spring 2009. As we develop a new plan, the Council will need to consider the IHL performance indicators and other institutional planning documents.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. in the Welty Boardroom.