Strategic Planning Committee
Minutes

February 9, 2006
Cardinal Room, University Center
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Present: Jim DeConinck, Sharon Jacques, Newt Smith, Gibbs Knotts, AJ Grube, Duane Dunlap, Carol Burton, Raymond Barclay

I. Discussion of Feedback (attached)

The committee reviewed the attached document and discussed feedback from the Faculty Senate, the Staff Forum, and individuals on campus. As a result of the discussion, the vision statement and the mission statement were revised to read as follows:

Vision Statement

Western Carolina University will be a national model for excellence building upon its historical foundations and forging new partnerships with individuals, communities, business, and industry, by cultivating ideas and commitments that are put into action through application and experience.

Mission Statement

Western Carolina University is a premier regional comprehensive university with national and internationally recognized faculty. As a constituent member of the University of North Carolina, the university offers courses in the arts, sciences, technologies, humanities, and professions through degree programs at the bachelor’s, master’s, education specialist and doctoral levels. The university has maintained its small college atmosphere and offers significant faculty mentoring and engaged learning opportunities incorporating research and service. The university’s teacher-scholar model creates a community where teaching, research, and creative activities focus on student learning. Western Carolina University uniquely focuses its educational programs, research and creative activities, and cultural opportunities toward improving individual lives and enhancing economic and community development in the region and state.

In addition, other minor revisions were made to the strategic planning document.

Raymond Barclay agreed to draft a set of guiding principles to be included in the “Characteristics and Purpose” section of the document. Once this is drafted, it will be circulated to the committee for its feedback.

II. AJ will attend the March Faculty Senate meeting to get the Senate’s input on the revised document.

III. The committee agreed not to schedule its next meeting at this time. Members will communicate with AJ regarding suggestions for revision of the strategic plan. If needed, the committee will reconvene.