Long Range Planning Committee
Minutes
10 – 25 – 13
S. Shepler 623
1:30 PM

Meeting Facilitator: Jeff Metzger, Chair

In attendance: Emily Brown, Tahzeea Frisby, Mike Husak, Sarah Janda, John Masters, Lynda Robinson, Kirsten Underwood, Ronna Vanderslice

Absent: Jawad Drissi

Item 1: Review of past meetings
Jeff asked if anyone has served on the committee before. Lynda commented that she had & gave an overview of what she could remember about items that had been discussed. However, she did not know if any of the discussions had resulted in change. Some change has occurred in relation to items discussed in previous years, but it is unclear whether or not the Long range Planning Committee was in any way the agent of change. Sarah commented that there is not a clear line of communication for committees. When recommendations are carried forth to Faculty Senate, committees and Faculty Senate are often not apprised of the results.

Item 2: Questions from Rules Committee
1. How often do you meet? In the past, the committee has met monthly but it is unclear whether or not that is really necessary. It was proposed to only meet when an item to be considered comes from Faculty Senate. It was also propose that this committee should meet with the University Planning Committee or somehow be connected to that committee. While we did not find the information during the meeting, the Faculty Handbook does require that the Chair of Long Range Planning be a member of the University Planning Committee.
2. Is there a need to evaluate membership? Committee members felt that members should be elected to 2 year terms rather than being appointed to one year terms with 2 members being elected in odd years and 2 being elected in even years. That way, there would be some continuity from year to year. There was also a proposal that Committee Chair and secretary should be appointed in Faculty Senate to 2 year terms, again, citing the need for continuity. Since the Provost sits on the committee as advisor, there was a concern raised as to whether or not the Provost votes. That was referred to the rules committee.
3. Is there a need to update/evaluate the mission statement? The afternoon’s discussion began with this question and discussion of it continued throughout the meeting as we covered other topics and came back to the mission. The conclusion was, yes, the mission needs to be updated. In terms of our evaluation during the meeting, some things that were discussed in the past were probably not the purview of the committee, i.e. implementing a new Master’s Degree program. When it was suggested that items for committee discussion should come from faculty Senate, no one could think of an item that might come to the committee. So at this time, given that no one could account for any changes in the past that arose from this committee, and no one could think
of an item that Faculty Senate would send to this committee, it is unclear just what function this committee really serves.

**Item 3: Conclusion**

Recommendations to the rules committee:
1. Long range Planning Committee should meet as needed.

2. We suggest changing the membership by having the members representing each school be elected in the general faculty election rather than being selected by the Faculty Senate Chair. We also suggest changing the terms of committee members so they are two years instead of one. We suggest staggering the terms for the elected members, which would mean beginning by electing two members this spring.

We also suggest that the Rules Committee consider making the terms for the Chair and Secretary two years instead of one. Finally, we suggest specifying in the Faculty Senate Constitution that the Provost or VPAA is a non-voting member.

3. It was agreed to amend the mission statement as follows: “To make recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding issues and programs that affect the future planning and development of Cameron University *as directed by Faculty Senate.*”

**Item 4: Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM without setting a future date for meeting.

Lynda Robinson, Secretary