Academic Council Minutes
April 20, 2006

Present: Green, Cass, Aniskiewicz, Kintzele, Hakes, Roales, Sehr, Stachacz, Dibie, Ash, Calhoon, Stroman, Pati

1. CTE funds to support the implementation of the new Informatics Degree were approved by the IU Board of Trustees. In addition, we will be recommending the use of additional CTE funds to attract and retain more freshmen. Our overall strategy is to have one big thing that we spend most of our CTE money – typically funding for a (usually faculty) position to achieve large campus goals like this year's implementation of Informatics. Other small requests are designed to augment larger CTE requests that have already approved by the Board.

    For example, we are initiating a Math Lab to help our students succeed in developmental mathematics. CTE funds have already been allocated to mathematics and adding additional CTE funding to achieve better student outcomes should make sense to the BOT and other decision makers at IU. Please note that all math tutoring will move from the LEC to the Math lab.

    Cabinet has approved the campus to put in $17,500 for research. There will be funding for a faculty research award of $2500. Start up funds for a survey research center of $12,000 and $300 for matching an additional amount to add another Summer Faculty Fellowship in 2007.

    There will be some funds allocated from reserves to support web redesign.

3. Faculty will be invited to and expected to participate in the New Student Orientation on Saturday August 19, 2006.

4. Take Back the Night – Aimee Ash said that many faculty members are involved. It will be on Tuesday, May 25th at 5:30 with a walk at 6:00.

5. Strategic Directions – Green will send out a response to the campus regarding the issues and questions that came out of the Town Hall meetings.

6. Peers – All campuses have been required by the Board of Trustees to identify a set of peers. Chancellor Person, Tim Sehr, Penny Cass, and VC Green have identified a set of peers. Chancellor Person will share more on thie process and the peers we have chosen at the April 24 Faculty Senate Meeting. We had a total of 75 peers and we looked at several factors of comparison to identify both comparable and aspirational peers, including size, overall budget, retention rates,

six year graduation rates, admission requirements, etc. We did not look at any other IU campuses as we already frequently measure ourselves against these peers. The reason for making a list of peers is to compare ourselves to them over time in areas that are important to the campus and to measure our outcomes to theirs, asking if the more successful strategies being employed by our peers may have value on our campus.