Institutional Change Progress Reporting Form II
UPDATE FOR PERIOD: 11/11/10-12/31/10
(Due January 7, 2011)

Cabinet Recommendation(s): Governance: Restructure the existing Academic Senate into a University wide Senate (Cabinet Recommendation 2.1) and Restructure the University Committee System (Cabinet Recommendation 2.2)

Progress report from previous period:

Responsible Person: Jay VerLinden & Claire Knox

Report Submitted by: Jay VerLinden

Date Submitted: January 4, 2011

Please provide a brief summary for each of the five report areas below.

Please provide links to, or files of major work that has been finished such as new policies, supplemental reports, or data used (such as surveys) in the accomplishment of your plans.

Summary of Progress Completed Since Last Report: The Faculty Affairs Committee, (FAC) under the direction of the Academic Senate Vice-Chair Claire Knox, continued to draft the proposed constitution for the new University Senate and proposed restructuring of committees. The committee met twice a week, conducted a series of town hall meetings to report to stakeholders and receive input. The chair of the FAC also regularly reported progress to the Academic Senate (which met weekly instead of bi-weekly) and solicited ideas from Senators.

List of Key Milestones Achieved Since Last Report: A draft of the University Senate was developed and the FAC Chair plans to share it with all faculty by January 7, 2011.
Are there aspects of the Cabinet’s recommendation (above) that remain unaddressed in your work? If so, please explain. The changes are works in progress that require acceptance by a significant portion of the faculty, staff, and students. As such they are not yet finished.

Comments on challenges, lessons learned, and/or resource needs: This is a process that takes a great deal of time to draft a constitution and consider changes to committee structures. To be successful faculty, especially, must believe that it was done carefully and with more than adequate consultation. As such, the time line for completing a constitution that would be accepted by most faculty (starting late in Spring 2010, suspended during the summer, and completed by the end of fall semester 2010) was not realistic. If a stipend had been available for faculty to continue the process during the summer the process probably could have been completed much sooner.

Forecast of Subsequent Plans for the Upcoming months: The draft constitution will be shared with faculty, feedback will be addressed, and the constitution/bylaws will be addressed at the Academic Senate. We hope that those discussions will go quickly and the constitution/bylaws will be approved by faculty in time to hold elections before courses are assigned for fall 2011. There is a good chance, though, that approval and elections will not take place before courses are scheduled.