Minutes

1. The minutes of the 9/26/05 meeting were approved.

2. Joanne shared information about the updated MDC Core Indicators Report. Committee members were referred to the Institutional Effectiveness website to view the report: 
   http://www.mdc.edu/planning_and_effectiveness/institutional_effectiveness.asp
   Nora suggested, and the committee agreed, that learning outcomes assessment results should be included in the report when available.

3. Joanne explained how the MDC Core Indicators Report was used in the December Executive Committee Planning Session. Specific areas that Executive Committee targeted for follow-up and improvement were discussed.

   College Prep Reading and Writing completion rates: Sean reported that the Academic Deans have met to discuss improvement efforts underway and begin to prepare a report for Executive Committee. Committee members expressed concerns about how often discipline committees are meeting and how effectively faculty is included in discipline discussion and decisions. Sean will “poll” the academic deans and report at the next Strategic Plan Coordinating Committee meeting. IR will be coordinating focus groups during Spring Term of potential graduates who needed college prep in all three subjects.

   Executive Committee also requested an evaluation of research into the structure of college prep departments – standalone vs. integrating into discipline. Institutional Research will work on the evaluation with Sean, the academic deans, and the college prep discipline.

   Enhance A.A. and A.S. graduation rates: The committee discussed reasons why graduation rates at MDC are lower than the state. Madeline will report on pre-
admission counseling, program code issues, and other strategies, and Rene will report on efforts to discourage early transfer at the next committee meeting.

4. Joanne also reviewed priorities emerging from Strategic Plan work group updates at the Executive Committee Planning Session.

Madeline will report back to the committee on the status of the academic planner and WebAdvisor work and include estimates of time and money needed to complete.

The committee had a lengthy discussion about the role of the Strategic Plan and various initiatives/efforts underway to use a data-driven process to improve student success.

Nora expressed concerns about lack of integration between initiatives including the General Education review, IE and learning outcomes assessment, the Learning Agenda II, and the Strategic Plan. Options like including Strategic Plan work group representation on major committees, providing regular updates to work groups were discussed. Committee members were encouraged to consider other ways to enhance communication and ensure that the Strategic Plan continues to provide the direction for college initiatives and activities and report at the next meeting.

The committee also felt that Conference Day would be a good opportunity to inform the college community about the various initiatives and how they fit together. Joanne will talk with Marie Nock to see if opening session will include these topics.

The remaining Strategic Plan priorities will be discussed at the next Coordinating Committee meeting.

5. Strategic Plan Annual Update

Ted gave draft summaries of work group progress to representatives/liaisons for each group. Work groups will provide corrections, suggestions, and additional information to Ted quickly so the update can be completed.

6. The remaining agenda items will be discussed at the next meeting. Committee members will be contacted to schedule the next meeting for early March.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30.