

Student Life committee

Meeting on Sept 9 2016

Members Present: Matt Feldmann, Ella Frazer, Poppy Fry, Megan Gessel, Tyler Randazzo, Brad Reich, Dan Sherman, Mike Segawa

Member absent: Jennifer Hastings

Visiting: Renee Houston (associate dean), Kristin Johnson (Senate liason)

After introductions, the meeting began with remarks from the Faculty Senate liason, Kirstin Johnson, who called for a vote for SLC chair. The committee discussed options, including Reich, who had served as chair in Fall 2015 and Gessel who had served as chair in Spring 2016. Reich has a scheduling conflict during the meeting times, and since Megan was the only member present in the Spring of 2016, the committee elected Gessel to chair.

Gessel asked for student business. The students had no immediate business to report, but were invited to discuss topics of interest to them. Frazer discussed her interest in issues regarding dietary options at campus dining locations. Specifically, she called attention to the fact that increasingly pork is in many of the options at these establishments and, especially with an increasing number of Muslim students, it has become more difficult for some students to find good options to eat, including herself. Feldman expressed interests in issues surrounding transgendered rights and campus policies and procedures, as the campus expands and diversifies.

There was no old business to attend to, so Gessel asked for new business.

Segawa described the purpose of the SLC, to advise and support the office of the dean of students, including serving on student- life-related committees, and serving as members of misconduct boards. He described the new model of assigning SLC members to ad hoc committees, with occasional (~ 3-4/semester) meetings of the entire SLC. The group agreed to continue this model.

Gessel outlined the committees that needed staffing and members volunteered for assignments:

Orientation- Sherman

SGVC-Fry and Gessel

Educational Committee- Reich

The Union board and Media board have been assigned to Barry Goldstein (along with the role of honor court). A comment was made that Hastings could assist Goldstein in one of these roles if the load was too much.

The SLC discussed how student members operate within this committee? What are their roles? In the past, student members review particular outcomes from other committees. For example, this year they may look at the draft of the sexual misconduct policy or the revised education goals as they are being drafted.

Reich asked Segawa if there were other committees that might benefit from SLC member attendance. Segawa listed experiential learning, student activism, mental health and CHAWS.

Several members of the committee expressed interest in issues surrounding mental health and CHAWS. Segawa explained that the SLC had looked into CHAWs, but had concluded that they were not qualified to make recommendation. Reich asked if rather than make recommendations on specific changes, if SLC could help guide data generation around CHAWs, so that those would eventually make recommendations would have adequate data. He asked if this was an area the SLC could explore.

Fry asked who would might be in charge of collecting data. Would it be institutional research? What about IRB or HIPPA concerns? Houston stated that she and Ellen Peters would be happy to collect this data.

Segawa suggested contacting the CHAWs staff, to determine what data the University already has on CHAWs. He was aware of a CHAWs presentation for the budget task force and thought that perhaps the SLC could hear a similar presentation. With that information, the SLC could decide what don't we know and what do we want to know? The SLC could then make recommendation that a committee or group be formed and/or suggest that this data be gathered.

Students on the committee were asked for their feedback and student perception of CHAWs. Overall, students don't trust CHAWs and there are things that CHAWs does not offer. As far as medical care, there are many negative experiences, with Frazer indicating that she has never had a positive experience. Experiences with counseling are all positive, if you can get an appointment.

The committee agreed to a CHAWs presentation near the end of the month, ahead of the board of Trustees meeting. Segawa stated that he would contact CHAWs staff to determine a date that works best for them. Johnson requested to be present at the presentation.

Gessel suggested that the following SLC meeting be in late October, depending on the charges given by the Faculty Senate. If no new charges are assigned, SLC members will be tasked to fulfill their roles on other committees and misconduct boards and meet at the late October meeting to check-in.

Fry moves to adjourn. The movement is seconded and passed.

Minutes scribed and submitted by Megan Gessel