

Minutes of Student Life Committee

March 12, 2013

Wheelock Student Center, Room 202

Present: Katy Appleby, Ryan Del Rosario, Bruce Mann, Mike Segawa, John Wesley, Lisa F. Wood, Dave Wright (Guest)

Mann called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The minutes from February 26, 2012 were approved.

Dean Mike Segawa opened the meeting with once again reviewing the Campus Climate Survey results. The focuses of this meeting were the sections reviewing inclusive learning environments (#8), addressing the challenges of becoming more diverse (#9), and reporting harassment (#10).

Jumping between sections #8 and #9 to start, the group discussed the data in more depth. Wood noted that decrease in the number of students who felt Puget Sound is addressing issues of diversity was maybe a signal that students having rising expectations of what this campus should offer. Wright added that in hearing anecdotes, he felt that many students had increasingly high expectations from their experience in high school and that more students are asking “what do you have here for me?” He concluded saying that there is still an issue of critical mass.

Appleby mentioned that in terms of inclusive learning, the culture at Puget Sound is shifting to include inclusive learning and this is largely shown in the data. Moving to #9, Appleby mentioned a myth surrounding faculty feeling overly secure in their positions because they are the only “diverse” member of the faculty. Del Rosario then added that he never thought much into the diversity of faculty but instead was very aware of student diversity. Wright then spoke on students mainly in African-American studies who felt much more comfortable and safe because of the relationships they formed with a diverse faculty. Segawa also added that he has spoken to students who felt that middle and senior level staff are much less diverse than the staff of DCS and facilities. Wood claimed that this is due to the systems in place and expressed concern for repairing these systems. Wesley said that one aspect of diversity that is not mentioned enough is the “non-visible” diversity. Mann adjourned the meeting at 4:50

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Del Rosario