

**Student Life Committee Minutes
February 3, 1999**

Present: Barry Anton, James Jasinski, Judith Kay, Terry Mace, Christy Mather, Carol Smith, Carrie Washburn

1. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the December 4, 1998 meeting were approved.

2. Senate Charge #2: Dean Judith Kay requested clarification on the letter which will be sent to student organizations soliciting feedback on how the organizations prepare students for the demands of democratic citizenship. The letter will be sent out shortly.

3. Discussion of Charge #3: Judith Kay began the discussion by circulating a portion of the recently concluded University self-study concerning the co-curricular program. She summarized the material in the report and stated that, at present, no problem exists in the level of faculty involvement with the co-curricular program. The focus of inquiry and discussion, she suggested, should be on ways to improve or enhance the already significant level of faculty involvement in the co-curricular program.

Judith reported some student concerns about faculty involvement that were disclosed during an open forum for student leaders conducted by the Dean of Students staff. Students raised two specific concerns: (1) getting faculty to announce programs and events in class and (2) getting faculty to attend more programs and events. During discussion, Judith reported the perception of staff members that if faculty speak on behalf of a program, it will help generate an audience.

Discussion continued on ways to improve faculty involvement with co-curricular programs and ways to assess student perceptions of the University's co-curricular programs. Determining ways to enhance lines of communication was a recurrent theme. The committee requested that Judith provide a list of the questions asked during the student leader open forum and that she try to identify the specific programs that generated students concern.

The committee also discussed conducting focus group discussions with "nonleader" students as way to gain additional information about student perceptions of the co-curricular program. The committee requested that this effort be coordinated by the Dean of Students office.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50am.

Respectfully submitted,

James Jasinski