

## **Student Life Committee Minutes**

**April 1, 1997**

(Note: Nothing in here is an April Fools Joke)

**Present:** Dean of Students, -Judith Kay; Associate Dean's Office-Carrie Washburn; faculty members-Barry Anton, Carol Merz, and Laura Thornburg; and student-Elizabeth Milet

Chair Anton called the meeting to order.

Kay reviewed the Residential Life topics to be discussed with invited guests. The guests she invited from IFC, PanHellenic, and the Residence Halls were unable to attend the meeting.

### **PROCEDURE FOR APPROVING AND AMENDING MINUTES**

Because the agenda was dependent upon these guests, we turned to a matter Merz, our newest member, brought to the floor. Merz thought she understood the process by which the committee submitted and approved minutes, but once it was her responsibility to do the minutes, she became disturbed by the process. She was unclear how the process of revision should proceed, as she received one piece of feedback requesting that she change the minutes, but she did not agree with the change. Merz said it was her experience that if someone has a different interpretation of the meeting they should make a correction to the minutes at the next meeting of the group.

Anton said that the system we were using worked fine when there was no controversy, but that when matters of interpretation come up, it should be the responsibility of the minute taker to do the best job possible. Thornburg added that it would then be the responsibility of the member who wishes to register a complaint with the minutes to bring that up at the next meeting, thereby making any amendments part of the next meeting's minutes. Washburn assured us that this is what all the other Faculty Committees on campus do. We remembered that Haltom (previously a member of the committee) had proposed our current system of editing minutes prior to web posting due to the nature of sensitive issues. Kay added that there were ways of having off-the-record discussions which could protect the committee from having to disclose publicly discussion of sensitive issues.

Anton proposed that the minute taker (all faculty members) could run the minutes by a colleague at his/her discretion and then email them directly to Facultycoms. At the next meeting the committee would approve or amend the minutes as appropriate.

It was moved and seconded that we proceed in this way from now on.

Amendments to the Minutes of March 12th: Kay proposed that the minutes read "Division of Student Affairs" rather than "Office of the Dean of Students." She explained that she sent around a memo with this change last Fall and that the minutes did not reflect this new name.

Kay proposed that the minutes read "since a final report had not been filed, this has not been done yet" rather than "this has not been done yet."

These amendments were approved.

The minutes from March 25th were also approved.

### **INTELLECTUAL LIFE ON CAMPUS**

The committee decided to discuss the topic which our guests were supposed to discuss - Intellectual Life in the Residence Halls, Fraternities and Sororities. Kay said that the general question before us is what kind of vision the university has for its residence units.

Mileti explained that Anderson-Langdon has Healthy Options Third Floor with Yoga classes, "Safe Zone" (a program concerning sexuality), and other speakers. For example, some dorms called in professors or other "experts" to help students understand and deal with the graffiti incident last Fall.

Merz asked about the new Director of Residential Programs position (formerly Di Scala's). Thornburg requested clarification regarding the job description for this position, as she was confused about the role of the Student Life Committee-would our work support this position? or would the work we are doing become redundant? Kay said this person would work in collaboration with Faculty and students. Anton said this committee could offer the new person guidance.

A discussion ensued regarding this position.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Docter Thornburg  
Assistant Professor