

Student Life Committee Minutes
September 26, 2007

Attending: Nick Kontogeorgopoulos, Mike Segawa, Jan Leuchtenberger, Terry Beck, Cathy Hale, Mita Mahato, Jack Royce, and Carrie Washburn.

The meeting was convened at 9 a.m.

The Chair informed the Committee that two students had been appointed to the Committee but were unable to come to this week's meeting. They will come to the next meeting.

Terry came to the Committee meeting today to report to the members the response of the Senate to the charges sent to them. The Senate asked for the following:

1. That the wording be changed so that all charges are written in the imperative.
2. That the Committee find a way to subsume the six goals under the four charges – perhaps by bulleting them as subsets of the various charges.

The Committee immediately made the requested changes and came up with the following, amended charges:

Suggested Charges for the Student Life Committee 2007-2008

(One of the six original goals was to determine more clearly the Committee's Senate liaison. Since this has been accomplished, the Committee did not include it among the bulleted points below.)

- 1. Provide input on various Student Affairs projects and initiatives as brought to the committee by the Dean of Students.**
 - Follow up more rigorously and consistently the work of Student Affairs committees that request input from the SLC.
- 2. Establish ongoing communication with and provide input to ASUPS on various projects at the request of that body's executives.**
 - Work more closely with ASUPS in order to allow ASUPS officials to bring projects to the SLC for faculty input.

- Discuss a request brought forth by a student member of the SLC to explore the possibility of an alternative, service-oriented Spring Break program. This year, two UPS students organized such activities during Spring Break, but the SLC plans to discuss this idea further and explore whether this can be made into a more regular opportunity (perhaps arranged through the Community Involvement and Action Center (CIAC)).
- 3. Review information sources available that could help identify issues relevant to student life. Such information sources include individual faculty, students, and staff, as well as the Office of Institutional Research and the ASUPS Student Concerns Committee.**
- Better inform faculty, students, and staff of the role of the SLC, and in particular, the ability of any member of the campus community to bring to the committee issues of concern related to student life.
 - Establish an ongoing relationship with Institutional Research that would continue beyond this year and provide a steady flow of information helpful in identifying long-term issues. These could then be addressed by the SLC in addition to emerging issues that are brought to its attention throughout the year.
- 4. Provide a pool of faculty from which to draw for participation on Student Affairs ad hoc committees.**

Terry also mentioned that during discussion of the Committee's charges, the Senate brought up the possibility of the Committee doing a review of CHWS and how it compares to similar services at peer institutions. The suggestion for such a review came from a student representative to the Senate.

Though Student Affairs has traditionally conducted reviews of all its programs every five years, the review process itself has come under scrutiny recently and Student Affairs is re-evaluating the process. CHWS would have been reviewed under the old system this year, and will be the first in line once the new process is in place.

The suggestion for a review came from the student independent of the usual review process, and was aimed at comparing the UPS service with those of other universities. Mike Segawa pointed out that, while he is aware of some problems, others have been addressed recently, and he feels that, in fact, the UPS CHWS would compare quite favorably with peer institutions.

The Committee members felt that the kind of review being proposed would best be done over the course of a year by an Ad-hoc committee, and would probably be too much to add to the ongoing business of the Committee. The members resolved that they want to

be a part of the Self-Study taking place in Student Affairs through which the new review process will be established. Furthermore, the Committee will provide input when a review of CHWS takes place.

Turning to the items on the Agenda, the Chair informed the Committee that he had written to Jada Pelger, Chair of the Staff Senate, to let her know that the Committee is available for staff to bring student life issues.

The Chair also contacted the Student Concerns Committee of ASUPS to let them know the Committee is here as a resource, and he asked that the end-of-semester report of the Student Concerns Committee be forwarded to him'

A member suggested that we establish as tradition that the chair of the Student Concerns Committee always be one of the student members of the Student Life Committee.

Mita said she had a student in mind who might serve as the third student member.

The Chair asked Mike if he needed any faculty members for Ad-hoc committees. The response was that, at present, no faculty are needed, but they will be soon for a committee to put together a 4-Year Leadership Development Curriculum Plan. The goal of this plan is to strike a better balance between the activities aimed at transitioning freshmen and sophomores and the relative lack of such activities for juniors and seniors. For seniors, in particular, the university would like to offer something like the Urban Plunge but with a component that would better draw on the students' critical thinking skills. An Ad-hoc Committee to address this will be formed soon.

One member added that we expect students who graduate to take on leadership roles, so this new plan should include development of leadership for ALL students.

Another member said that there is a particular need to find a way for returning Study Abroad students to have more chances to share their experiences with the campus and the community at large.

Mike alerted the Committee to the fact that he will soon be asking for its input on the new Sexual Assault Policy that he has drafted. Right now, the new policy has been seen by the Professional Standards Committee and the Staff Senate, and ASUPS has looked at an early version. The early document outlined changes to be made, and Mike has been working on the exact policy. University counsel has signed off on the new language. The exact policy has now been forwarded to Ron Thomas and Kris Bartanan and to cabinet members. Eventually it will be forwarded to this and other committees for input.

The driving force for this change was feedback from students that the existing policy was not supportive to survivors. Some of the major issues that are addressed and changed in the new policy are:

What is sexual assault?
What is confidentiality?
What is consent?
Adjudication process reviewed and changed.

If the Board signs off on this, there will have to be a change to the Integrity Code as well. The new policy will first be used as a pilot program to see how it works. Details are still being worked out, but there is a general consensus on the content. It will be brought to the Board at its October meeting, and is expected to be rolled out in the spring.

The Chair postponed items 4, 5 and 6 on the agenda to the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

The next meeting of the Student Life Committee will be Wednesday, October 10 at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Leuchtenberger