

## **Student Life Committee Minutes October 5, 2006**

Attending: Jean Kim, Nick Kontogeorgopoulos, Jan Leuchtenberger, Mita Mahato, Chris McKim, Carrie Washburn, Ryan Dumm.

The meeting was convened by Chair Kontogeorgopoulos just after 9 a.m.

The Chair reminded members that more student members are needed on the committee and asked for suggestions from faculty members. Chris McKim offered to pass some names on.

Dean Kim asked for committee members to participate in the following projects:

The CHWS (Counseling, Health and Wellness Services) Board: Chris McKim volunteered and will serve as primary representative. Nick Kontogeorgopoulos also volunteered and will serve if they need two representatives.

A committee to develop a strategic plan for the Greek community: Mita Mahato volunteered for that committee.

The Chair welcomed Randy Nelson to the meeting and thanked him for attending and for sending data on the senior survey. Randy had been asked to address a number of questions compiled by the Chair from committee members and sent out to all before the meeting. They included:

1. What assessments are done annually of students and faculty?
2. What ongoing assessments are done of students and faculty?
3. What data sets are available to the Student Life Committee?
4. What does your office do with the data that it collects (i.e., is there a formal protocol? How is the information on data distributed and to whom?)
5. Do you have any ideas on what this committee may want to do with the data available in order to identify issues of importance to students?
6. Are there any data the university is not collecting, but should?

Randy reported that:

- His department officially reports to the Academic Dean but also conducts surveys as requested in other areas, the results of which are reported to the parties that requested them.
- He gave a list of all of the regularly scheduled assessments, when they are given, to whom they are reported and how they are reported. He also listed some of the more recently conducted special assessment projects.
- He suggested that the NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement) and the Senior Focus Groups might be the most helpful to the Committee in isolating issues.

- He pointed out that some of the findings could be shared immediately while others would have to be requested and formally released by the Academic Dean. In addition, he assured all that anything that is released is compiled data, never raw data.

The Committee discussed how it might be able to isolate items in the data that would yield information relevant to its charges (i.e., student life issues rather than academic ones). Randy said that if we had specific questions, he could tell us how to go about looking for their answers in the data. He also pointed out that we could create a Student Voice survey to specifically ask questions that might not be addressed in existing assessments.

The Committee concluded that its goals over the next few meetings were to:

- Deliberate and formulate specific questions which could guide Randy in looking for the necessary data in the available assessments or in creating a new one for the Committee.
- Establish an ongoing relationship with Randy's office that would continue beyond this year and provide a steady flow of information to the current and future Committees that would help identify long-term issues. These could then be addressed by the Committee in addition to "erupting" issues that are brought to its attention throughout the year.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jan Leuchtenberger

The next meeting of the Student Life Committee will be Thursday, October 19, in Dean Kim's office.