

Student Life Committee Minutes November 2, 2006

Attending: Cathy Hale, Jean Kim, Nick Kontogeorgopoulos, Jan Leuchtenberger, Mita Mahato, Carrie Washburn, Ryan Dumm, Taylor Ash and Danni Simon.

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

The Chair asked the student members for their spring schedules as soon as they are available so we can set a meeting time for next semester.

The Chair advised the members that:

Items on the agenda for this week included:

1. Committee self-evaluation
2. An update on the requests for survey data
3. Discussion of student orientation in academic honesty.

Items on the agenda for next week include:

1. First-year residential seminars
2. The Greek Life Task Force (another faculty member needed)

1. On the first agenda item regarding the committee's self evaluation:

The Chair pointed out that the evaluation form asks questions about conformity to bylaws, committee size and make-up, frequency of committee meetings, committee organization and committee responsibilities.

A similar evaluation was performed by the committee last year but not formally submitted. Chris McKim (not present today) knows more about that.

Members of the committee pointed out that it was hard to self-evaluate so early in the year, when the committee has barely formed and that perhaps an extension on the deadline would be allowed.

The Chair asked committee members if he should apply to the Senate for an extension and work with Chris McKim to evaluate the last year's evaluation and incorporate information on changes and progress made this year. The committee members asked him to do so.

2. On the second agenda item regarding requests for survey data:

The Chair informed the Committee that he was still waiting to hear back from Randy Nelson about questions the committee had formulated at the last meeting, and about permission from Kris Bartanan to use the results of some surveys.

Committee members suggested that some of our questions seems to piggy-back on things done by ISLO and that because of that Alyce Demarais might want to participate in our discussions. The Chair offered to write to both Randy and Alyce, and offer Alyce the opportunity to participate.

3. On the third agenda item regarding academic honesty:

The Committee has been asked to give its opinion on the best place for a discussion of academic honesty with the incoming freshmen class. The Committee was reminded that the Prelude Committee is already discussing whether or not to include it, and the final decision on that would reside only with the Prelude Committee. However, the Committee was asked for its input.

Previous discussions have concluded that:

- Something needs to come at the beginning of the year for incoming students.
- How it is to be done needs to be worked out by the OPC and Prelude Committees.
- Any discussion of academic honesty needs to deal with emerging issues related to electronic resources.

Student Committee members offered several suggestions, including:

- If it is included in freshmen orientation it should come from student leaders and not faculty, so that it is experienced more as a relevant student experience (and not one of a myriad rules). Peer advisors might be the best for this.
- If it were added to the campus life skit it might make more of an impression – especially if the skit showed a student doing it unintentionally but getting into trouble for it.

The Chair asked Carrie Washburn to pass on to the OPC the following suggestions respectfully submitted by the Committee:

- The Committee recognizes the importance of a discussion about academic honesty with incoming students.
- Perhaps a series of workshops could be offered that were voluntary but with attendance highly recommended by faculty (especially those teaching freshman seminars)
- The discussion might be received better by the students if offered by Peer Advisors and Perspectives Leaders.

- The Campus Life Skit might be an ideal place for students to see the consequences of violating policies on academic honesty – either intentionally or unintentionally.

Finally, Dean Kim offered an update on class scheduling issues:

Recently there has been discussion of the policy change under which MWF classes from 3-4:20 would no longer be allowed. These kinds of class scheduling issues have traditionally been dealt with in the Academic Standards Committee. The Senate has asked the ASC to develop and finalize guiding principles on this issue but it might need some help to do that so an Ad Hoc task force has been formed to gather information for the ASC.

The Ad Hoc Committee is chaired by Dean Kim and comprised of three members of the Senate and three from the ASC (one student, one faculty member and one staff member). This committee will develop a draft of the principles. The committee has currently drafted a survey for faculty about those issues. It also would like student input and is considering meeting with ASUPS Senate or doing an electronic poll through the ASUPS website.

At some point the Student Life Committee will be asked for its input on this issue.

Committee members brought up the issue of creating a common period when there are no classes. Another member suggested getting input from Jack Roundy, who deals with most scheduling problems.

The Chair thanked Dean Kim for this update.

The meeting was adjourned around 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Leuchtenberger

The next meeting of the Student Life Committee will be Thursday, November 16, in Dean Kim's office.