

STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE
2005-2006 END OF YEAR REPORT
April 18, 2006

Members of the Student Life Committee: Jean Kim (Dean of Students), Carrie Washburn (representative from the Dean's office)
Faculty members: Chris McKim (chair), Jac Royce, Mark Harpring, Cathy Hale, Greg Elliott, Oswaldo Estrada
Students: Ben Engler, Lindsey Stermole, Autumn Best

The Student Life Committee met during the 2005-2006 academic year to discuss the following charges from the Faculty Senate:

1. To continue to explore ways to encourage campus conversations aimed at promoting greater responsibility, accountability and civility on campus.
2. To review and consider the recommendation of the purchase of an on-line alcohol awareness tool that students would have to complete prior to arriving on campus.
3. To discuss the university's position on parent notification when there is an incident of drug or alcohol "abuse".
4. To explore the on-campus living needs and desires for juniors and seniors.

Charge #2 –The committee first reviewed the current and proposed alcohol education program. Charee Boulter from Substance Abuse Prevention then facilitated a discussion on drug and alcohol abuse on campus. We used the *Summary of Optimum Power Technology and the findings from Texas A & M* to discuss the benefits of purchasing Optimum Power. As a group, we discussed how much we need it within our student community; how it would work; how we could use this technology all over campus (for other programs); and how we could implement its use in addition to our existing speakers program, and alcohol and drug abuse prevention program (Six Pack of Common Sense).

ACTION: the SLC endorses the implementation of Optimum Power Technology.

Charge #3 - Dean Kim informed the Committee about the University's current policy, which is regulated by FERPA. Currently, parents are notified if: 1) a student is admitted to the emergency room or is hospitalized due to alcohol abuse or poisoning or due to drug abuse; or 2) if a student has been involved in several conduct issues, such as sexual assault or bodily harm to others. The objective of the parent notification policy is for the University to work with parents or guardians to identify an appropriate plan of treatment or action for the student. Dean Kim also outlined the policies of other universities. After discussion of the roles of the Dean of Student Affairs staff and of university faculty, Committee members voted unanimously to approve the following action:

ACTION: The current policy of parental notification in cases of student alcohol or drug abuse is seen as effective and appropriate for the needs of the university community.

Charge #4 – Preliminary investigation of this charge showed that much has already been done to evaluate the future of on-campus housing. Shane Daetwiler summarized for the committee an analysis of a residential survey. The main points were:

- students want more space, privacy and independence
- the ability to choose more effectively with whom they live
- kitchens to cook for themselves
- spaces that are more like houses than dorms
- less monitoring by student staff members

Recent changes in the lottery process appear to have increased participation by juniors and seniors; perhaps the perception has shifted that there is a greater likelihood for success. Trimble Hall has also shifted the choice pattern; with more room for sophomores on campus there are more options for juniors and seniors for off-campus houses.

Charge #1 – The committee was unable to clarify this charge sufficiently for any action to be taken on it.

Additional Topics - The Committee also assumed the following charge:

To support, review, and respond to the work of the Task Force on Defining Integrated Student Learning Outcomes (ISLO) on behalf of the Faculty Senate.

Much of the committee's work during the Spring was dedicated toward self-evaluation and redefinition. During the past several years this committee has

struggled with charges that are vague or redundant to other work currently being done on campus.

**SUGGESTED CHARGES FOR THE
2005-2006 STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE**

Suggested Charges for the committee will be dealt with in the Self-Evaluation process. Most of the projected charges will be derived from a closer association with the Department of Student Affairs and the Dean of Students.