

STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE
2004-2005 END OF YEAR REPORT
April 18, 2005

Members of the Student Life Committee: Houston Dougharty (Interim Dean of Students), Carrie Washburn (representative from the Dean's office)
Faculty members: Kurt Walls (chair), Chris McKim, Jac Royce, Mark Harpring, Barry Bauska
Students: Rebecca Fay, Cara Evans, Pat Moyle

The Student Life Committee met eight times during the 2004-2005 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 consider alternatives to decrease the number of cars on campus and develop parking management.
3. To consider the recommendations of the Advising Review report and the impact it has on students with disabilities, specific behaviors, or issues relating to academic performance

Charge #3 – At our first meeting, the committee was informed that much of this charge was already being considered by others on campus. We were introduced to “Y2i – the Year 2 Initiative”. The driving force behind this program is to increase the retention of students who decide to leave after their first year at UPS. Dean Dougharty, along with guests Bill Barry and Kathleen Holmes, explained that the university never had a structure in place for second year students and that these students often feel left out. They went on to explain the many new programs and activities that are being specifically designed for sophomores.

Charge #2 - Upon reviewing this charge, the committee asked for clarification as to what aspect this committee should consider in regard to parking management. Our representative from the Dean's office explained how the Student Life Committee fits into the administration and master plan view for the desired reduction in parking spaces on campus. Quickly noted was the contradiction between the desire to have more students live on campus and the anticipated construction of new living units and the reduction of parking spaces. Much discussion revolved around the concept of UPS charging for parking or restricting

freshmen from bringing cars with them to campus. The consensus among our student committee members was that students would simply park in the adjoining neighborhoods. The committee unanimously agreed that the Student Life Committee should have representation on the parking management team, but that our role should be advisory and informative. The parking issues on campus not only involve the students, but the faculty and staff as well as guests to the campus. The chair informally presented the committee's desire to be involved in parking management (in the manner noted above) to the Academic Dean.

Charge #1 - This charge constitute the majority of the committee's investment in time and discussion the year. Much of the discussion was centered on the significant risks associated with binge drinking. Two of the students on the committee were planning to organize a Drink Responsibly program after one of them was faced with finding a fellow student passed out from alcohol poisoning and needing immediate medical attention. These two students organized an alcohol awareness lecture giving by a recovering alcoholic peer. The event was attended by around 300 students. We had conversations with Mike Segawa (Associate Dean, Student Development) and Charee Boulter (Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator, CHWS) to understand the extent of the drinking problem on campus and the programs currently in place and available to the students. One of the most disturbing issues to the committee regarding drinking is that most of the sexual assaults on campus involve alcohol. Mike Segawa described an on-line alcohol awareness tool that he had reviewed but was concerned with the expense vs. the benefits.

SUGGESTED CHARGES FOR THE 2005-2006 STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE

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.

