

**STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE  
FINAL REPORT TO FACULTY SENATE  
2001-2002**

Our charges were:

1. In cooperation with appropriate University departments, examine off-campus student/neighbor relations and recommend changes to policy and programs where appropriate.
2. Consult with the ASUPS concerning the Student Bill of Rights and report to the Faculty Senate about the feasibility of adopting the Student Bill of Rights (and including it in, for example, the *University Bulletin*). (Inclusion in the *Bulletin* is mentioned only as an example of what "feasibility" may mean.)

Regarding Charge #1:

The SLC spent much of the Fall semester gathering information on off-campus student/neighbor relations and discussing ways to improve them. We reviewed relevant materials from Student Affairs (Logger, Neighbor to Neighbor newsletter, Parent Resource Guide, statistics regarding neighbor complaints, Party Smart flyer, etc). We met with Monica Nixon, Associate Director for Student Services, regarding what her office does to help off-campus students and their relationships with their communities. The consensus was that Monica, whose position is new this year, and her office are doing a fantastic job. Monica also suggested that we review the off-campus student website ([www.ups.edu/student\\_life/off-campushousing](http://www.ups.edu/student_life/off-campushousing)) and make suggestions for improvement. We made several recommendations that have since been incorporated into the site.

In our discussions, the need for off-campus students and neighbors to get to know each other kept coming up. Late-summer block parties seem a good way to do this. We suggested to Monica Nixon that her office look into the "Safe Streets" program to see if we could model a program after theirs. Monica Nixon will be pursuing the block party idea with the Tacoma Police Department, the Office of Community Relations, and the North End Neighborhood Council this summer. She hopes to be able to implement it at the end of August/beginning of September. The SLC has requested that Monica give us a brief report at the end of Fall semester (after she has worked here a full year) regarding this kind of programming.

Kris Bartanen also brought in a sample letter sent out to off-campus students after their first neighbor complaint. The committee read the letter and made a few suggestions regarding improvements to it that were afterwards implemented.

In the Spring, Marilyn Bailey, Director of Community Relations, came to one of our meetings so we could learn what her office does regarding the reporting of neighbor complaints.

Regarding Charge #2:

We were not able to get a copy of the developing Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities (SBRR) until the beginning of the Spring semester since it was still in the hands of the ASUPS drafting committee. Our charge was to make a recommendation as to the "feasibility" of

adopting the SBRR. In its current state, we cannot recommend that it be adopted. However, the committee recognizes that this document is still in its formative stages and we will better be able to make a recommendation at this time next year. We decided to make recommendations to the drafting committee regarding potential conflicts between the SBRR and existing University documents (the Integrity Code, Faculty Code, Residence Life contract, etc), points that need to be clarified, selection of word choice, framing, etc. Our recommendations are only made to the best of our knowledge. The committee recognizes that the drafting committee must do the groundwork necessary to assure that the document is as clear and clean as possible, and our role is simply to help point out possible problems. We will forward our comments to the drafting committee at the end of the school year. The SLC supports the ideals behind the creation of such a document and looks forward to collaborative work with the ASUPS drafting committee. We therefore recommend that we be charged with continuing work on the SBRR in the upcoming school year. We have been assured by the ASUPS President that the SBRR will be a summer project and the drafting committee would thus have the next draft of the document ready by early in the Fall semester.

#### Additional Charge:

The SLC adopted an additional charge while waiting for the SBRR draft to come from ASUPS: that of the upcoming Conspiracy of Hope project. Darrel Frost, a student on the committee, is working on establishing a week-long community service event during the Spring of 2003, called the Conspiracy of Hope (CH). He and the other CH committee members sought out the SLC's input on the project, including input on a draft letter that will be circulated to faculty and staff regarding the project.

The SLC would be happy to continue to give input to the CH committee during the next academic year if the CH planning committee and the Senate so desire.

#### **Suggested Charges for the 2002-2003 school year:**

1. Give comments on the revised Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities
2. Continue giving suggestions on the Conspiracy of Hope project
3. Hear again from Monica Nixon. We'd be interested to have a report back from her at the end of the Fall semester regarding the "Safe Streets" block party implementation as well as regarding any new headway she and her office will have made into improving off-campus student / neighbor relations.
4. Survey the campus students and faculty to find out what problems that they may see that the SLC could help with. A similar survey was conducted a few years ago and proved fruitful. We would like to survey the faculty too, to see if they notice any problems that should be examined (an example of such a problem might be work-study students being assigned night-shifts on campus and thus not being able to function well in class etc).
5. Review the 2001-2002 Conseling, Health, and Wellnes Services Self-Study. Each year over a five-year period, a different department in the Student Affairs Division conducts a self-study and is evaluated by a team comprised of external and campus evaluators. Houston Dougharty suggests that the Student Life Committee be charged annually with looking at the previous year's Student Affairs' department self-study.