

Student Life Committee
September 11, 2014

Meeting convened at 8 am in Wheelock 201. Rachel Askew, Lisa Fortlouis Wood, Lisa Ferrari, Brad Reich, Poppy Fry, Sam Jenkins, Mike Segawa, Mike Benveniste and David Latimer were present, as was Faculty Senate liaison Nila Wiese.

Brad Reich was elected committee chair by acclamation.

Nila Wiese introduced the Faculty Senate's draft charges for the committee. These charges ask the committee to work with the Gender Violence Task Force (in part by sending one representative from the committee to the task force), to collaborate with the First Year Experience Task Force when it re-forms, and to track and record (over the course of the year) the quantity and relevance of work associated with sitting on the committee.

Lisa Wood raised the concern that the specific work of the Student Life Committee could be compromised if members of the committee operated primarily as liaisons to other committees/task forces/etc. Nila suggested that the potential for such conflicts prompted the Senate to request that committees track their work loads.

Mike Segawa reminded the group that one key task of the Student Life Committee was to provide the faculty needed for disciplinary boards; that is, that committee meetings had never comprised the only responsibility of committee members.

Poppy Fry was unanimously elected secretary, despite her lack of Eli Gandour-Rood-level minutes-writing skills.

Lisa Wood raised the question of what role the student members of the committee should and will play in the year's work. Brad suggested that students' role in the committee's work could only fully be mapped out once the actual work of the committee was clarified by the final charges. A discussion of student engagement and the importance of student voices followed. Lisa Wood proposed a motion to ensure that checking in with student committee members would be a standing item on every meeting's agenda. Lisa Ferrari seconded this motion, and it was approved.

The meeting was then adjourned.