

**Minutes of the Student Life Committee**  
**September 25, 2014**

**Present:** Faculty Members Brad Reich, Lisa Fortlouis Wood, David Latimer; Student Representatives Rachel Askew, Sam Jenkins; Library Liaison Eli Gandour-Rood; Associate Dean Lisa Ferrari; Dean Mike Segawa

Meeting was **called to order** at 8:05.

Several members of the committee were absent due to scheduling conflicts. There was a brief discussion of whether the committee had sufficient number of members present to proceed with the meeting; it was agreed that we could.

**Minutes**

The minutes for September 11<sup>th</sup> were reviewed. No corrections were offered, and a motion to approve was seconded and unanimously **approved**.

**Old Business**

First order of business was to implement last week's suggestion that the SLC regularly consult with students on campus to inform our work. The two student representatives have been informally connecting with other students to check in about issues on campus, and will continue to do so.

One issue raised was that of the prevention of sexual violence on campus. One student representative noted that although there is much discussion on campus, many students feel that they don't have an understanding of the actual context of incidents that are happening on campus.

Dean Segawa agreed that it is a challenge to reach all of campus, though there are campus-wide reports issued from Student Life every semester (a recent increase in frequency from annually) that come out through The Trail and Open Line. Security also issues an annual crime statistics report, as federally mandated. There was discussion of how the committee might promote awareness. The committee recalled the student-run organization (Peer Advisors) working on this issue who came to speak with the SLC last year, and expressed a desire to reconnect with that group and offer support. The committee also discussed designing and creating marketing efforts, such as posters, to raise awareness.

Next, the committee further discussed the charges from the faculty senate, and how the committee would begin the work of addressing the charges. Noting the preferences of committee members who could not attend the meeting and who had reached out to the chair by email, as well as the preferences of those present, the committee discussed how to proceed.

In the course of discussion, the committee voted to amend the first charge, regarding awareness of sexual violence on campus, to read "...to increase **campus awareness**..." in order to reflect an expanded perspective beyond that of just the faculty.

Dean Segawa noted that charge # 3, regarding first year experience on campus, will likely come in multiple parts: there will probably be no new information regarding orientation or changes to Prelude this fall; that will likely come up as an issue next semester. One topic which likely will come up this semester is exploring the issue of first year seminars as residential seminars; the question of whether ALL first year seminars should be residential

seminars will be explored. Part of the work of the committee will be to check in with various relevant parties to determine what feelings are about such a move.

The committee decided to divide into working groups, which are as follows:

Charge # 1: Sam J, David L, Ryan D

Charge # 2: Poppy F

Charge # 3: Mike B, Lisa F, Eli G-R, Rachel A

Charge # 4: Lisa W, Mike S

Charge # 5: Brad R (and eventually everyone)

There was a **motion to accept the working groups as proposed**, which was seconded and **unanimously approved**.

The committee discussed how best to proceed with each charge. For charge # 1, the committee noted that this issue is one that colleges and universities across the nation are engaging with, and that there is much work to be done, both student-led and institution-led. There was a note that as of this past summer, the University has a new 'Sexual Violence Resource Center' section on the website, which attempts to bring information from disparate sources together. The committee also noted that work to raise awareness with new students happens at orientation, but it may get lost in the firehose of information and new experiences, and that work should be done throughout the year.

While discussing charge # 2, it was requested that Poppy report to the committee both verbally and in writing when she has updates in her role as liaison.

Regarding charge # 3, there was further discussion about whether the issues will arise in fall or spring, with speculation that other groups on campus may not be ready to discuss these issues until spring. The committee noted ongoing conversations on campus about experiential learning, and suggested the work group look into incorporating that discussion into its work.

Charge # 4 is a continuation and expansion of the work that was done by the committee last year.

The committee also noted that it would be useful for all charges (except perhaps # 4, which may not yet be ready for the worksheet) to utilize the worksheet that was developed last year by the committee to focus our work.

### **New Business**

None.

Before adjourning, the committee laid out a plan for the next meeting: to review any work done by working groups 1 and 3 (including reviewing worksheets filled out by the group), and further discuss preliminary ideas for charge # 4.

Meeting **adjourned 8:58am**.

Appendix A: 2014-2015 Faculty Senate Charges to the Student Life Committee *as amended*

1. Identify initiatives to increase ~~faculty~~ **campus** awareness regarding sexual assault issues on campus and faculty's reporting obligations.
2. Appoint a Student Life Committee member to serve on the Sexual and Gender Violence Committee (SGVC). The SLC faculty representative to the SGVC will report back to the full Student Life Committee with any specific recommendations of relevance to the faculty.
3. To identify initiatives or mechanisms for enriching (1) the academic component integrated into the first year experience (e.g., Prelude); and (2) the intellectual life on campus (i.e., outside the classroom).
4. Conduct a self-evaluation of the SLC's standing charges and current responsibilities, and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate for changes that would enhance the efficiency and relevance of the work conducted by the committee (including ASUPS liaison functions and other potential advisory roles).
5. With respect to the work of the committee during 2014-15, indicate in your end of year report whether the size of the committee was appropriate and identify any committee work that seemed superfluous.