

Student Life Committee
October 8, 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, Eli Gandour-Rood, and David Latimer were present.

The meeting began with the approval (with minor changes) of the minutes from 9/25.

As per the committee's previous resolution, the meeting continued with the solicitation of any input from student representatives. Rachel Askew mentioned she had some input regarding orientation, but she wished to wait until the meeting reached that topic.

Working groups presented their reports. Group One had been assigned the following charge: "sexual assault awareness: identify initiatives to increase campus awareness regarding sexual assault issues on campus and faculty and staff's reporting obligations". Group One's report was presented by David Latimer, who shared the group's worksheet with the committee. Lisa Wood suggested engaging the NW5 as a venue for discussing issues of sexual assault. Lisa Ferrari indicated that Sunil Kukreja would be the point man for NW5 involvement. Mike Segawa discussed the limitations on collaboration across NW5 campuses. Poppy Fry mentioned the importance of Sarah Shives to the conversation. Mike Segawa informed the committee about some of the broader trends/expectations coming from a federal level. Brad Reich suggested that the University of Montana "Dear Colleague" letter would be a good starting point for the committee's work on sexual assault and Title IX violations. Lisa Wood asked about the relationship between national issues and local ones. The student representatives, Sam Jenkins and Rachel Askew said that improving awareness of campus (and other) policies would be a key part of any committee work on the issue. Mike Segawa brought up the role of Human Resources in educating faculty and staff regarding campus policies. Eli Gandour-Rood raised the question of how the spread of information would fit into existing campus initiatives. A discussion of deliverables followed. Rachel Askew raised the possibility of collaboration with off-campus groups. Lisa Wood moved to accept Group One's report, Mike Benveniste seconded, and the measure was approved.

Group Three had been assigned the following charge: "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)". Group Three's report was presented by Lisa Ferrari, who suggested that the second part of the group's charge was hugely broad and therefore proposed beginning with the first part. The contingencies involved in any SLC work on orientation/first year experience were highlighted. Along this line, Mike Segawa indicated that the report of the First Year Task Force was not complete. Mike Benveniste suggested that a simple repository of events (or accurate event calendar) could be a worthwhile deliverable. Lisa Wood raised the academic importance of orientation and emphasized the need to acclimate students to the scholarly process.

It being 9:00, Brad Reich ended discussion and the committee voted to adjourn.