

**Student Life Committee Minutes
February 18, 1998**

Present: Anton, Balaam, Washburn, Fitzhugh, Kay, Hoppe (visitor), Piccardo, Mace

Absent: Kukreja, Milet

The minutes of January 26, 1998 were approved as amended.

Mace: the Senate voted on changes in its by-laws pertaining to the SLC.

Attention turned to two draft documents put forward by Judith Kay:

"Accountability of Chapters and Individual Chapter Members: Guidelines for IFC and PHC Judicial Boards" and "University Expectations of Peer Review by Fraternities and Sororities."

Mace: do resident halls have similar documents?

Kay: not for another year. We should try to make the 2 systems--one for the Greeks and one for the independents--the same.

Mace: are their now judicial boards in each fraternity and sorority?

Kay: there are standards committees, and the IFC and PHC have boards.

Mace: can chapters take something to IFC and PHC?

Hoppe: would like to see the two boards phased into one.

Balaam: asked what the nature of the problem was. Do IFC and PHC do an adequate job when it comes to deciding cases before them?

Kay: the Dean's Office delegates certain types of cases to IFC and PHC. The problem is when there is a case the university doesn't know about.

Hoppe: some of the problems in the past between IFC and the Dean's Office have been personality based.

Balaam: why is not knowing about a case such a problem?

Kay: gave some hypothetical examples where risks might have been taken or violations of the integrity code occurred.

Balaam: why the necessity to make changes to the judicial codes at this time?

Hoppe: there are some inconsistencies in that the IFC doesn't always report to the Dean's Office.

Kay: the university may be vulnerable in some situations.

Mace: the IFC and PHC are currently not mandated to report to the Dean's Office. Where is it implied that the IFC and PHC are expected to report to the administration?

Hoppe: if chapters are supposed to report, so should (implied) IFC and PHC.

Kay: on certain policies, the Dean of Students has the authority to involve itself in these affairs. This isn't an attempt to second guess the boards. An example is the issue of more training and learning about due process is need for all the boards.

Balaam: complained that the language of the "Accountability" draft sounded too punitive, at least in the opening paragraph.

Kay: this document was adopted from pieces of current policy: the integrity code, a description of what currently happens, and some recommendations endorsed by the Board of Trustees. It is an attempt to establish clear guidelines and sanctions.

Hoppe: we are trying to sort out some of the accountability issues. This is an attempt to make people more accountable.

Washburn: is concerned about due process for individuals and violations about democratic principles.

Anton: wondered if there is an appeal process for individuals?

Fitzhugh: wondered about the value of training. Chapter leaders take the most accountability. It works well now.

Hoppe: the appeal process is determined each semester by (Kay) pre set individuals in PHC for ex, and others (fac, staff person) etc.

Fitzhugh and Anton: fraternity members agree to fraternity rules when they join.

Hoppe: different standards exist around the campus. The Dean's Office is trying to establish jurisdiction over these matters.

Kay: the IFC has an appeal process.

Mace: chapter by-laws outline procedures for the standards boards?

Hoppe: yes.

Balaam: still doesn't like a lot of the language in the drafts. It's vague.

Hoppe: other universities give power to somebody like the Dean's Office to correct these sorts of situations.

Anton: there is a lack of definition for some of the terms, ex "minimum due process". Clearer language is needed.

Mace: can this document be used as a basis for deciding action? The language is vague--so maybe use this document to reference the kinds of questions that will be asked.

Kay: more can be added to say that these are the sorts of questions to use as a basis of judicial review.

Anton: wondered what response the fraternities and sororities would be to the documents.

Hoppe: perceives that they want clear language.

Mace: let's try to get some feedback from the students on this.

Washburn: students have certain freedoms under the integrity code. Do students in the dorms feel that the Greeks have more freedom than they do? Is there equity?

Hoppe: each thinks the other gets away with a lot.

Kay: groups that have exclusive use of university facilities have certain privileges and burdens. This includes the theme houses.

Hoppe: ideally we'd have a Greek and Residence board.

Mace: we'll see how meeting with IFC and PHC reps goes--their response to this.

Mace to invite them to come to our 3/4 meeting.
The meeting adjourned at 5 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David N. Balaam