

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 11, 2013

[In these minutes: Student Services Fees Committee Resolutions; New Business; Student Affairs updates; Healthy Minds Survey Results.]

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the view of, nor are they binding on the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Patricia Jones Whyte (chair), Lauren Beach, Thomas Bilder, Joyce Holl, Bryan Oliver Smith, Meghan Sable, Michael Stebleton, Kendre Turonie, Amelious Whyte

GUESTS: Megan Sweet, David Golden

REGRETS: Peter Haeg, Carlos Torelli

OTHERS: Lisa Erwin

WELCOME

Patricia Jones Whyte, chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed those present and called for introductions. She then read the charge aloud to members.

Ms. Rich reviewed the participation expectations with the members.

STUDENT SERVICES FEES COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

Megan Sweet, associate director, Office for Student Affairs, explained that changes to the fees policies must be presented to the Student Affairs Committee for review. Each campus has different policies for the Student Services Fees process. She distributed a handout that contained:

- Resolution 1, 2013 Student Services Fee Committee
Regarding: Optionality of Presentations
April 17, 2013
Vote: 9-0-0
 - The language was amended to clearly *require* student groups to present their proposals to the SSFC. This was already common practice and now it is reflected in the language.
- Resolution 4, 2013 Student Services Fee Committee
Regarding: Student Group SSFC Composition
April 17, 2013
Vote: 5-3-0

- No student group SSFC should be comprised of 50% or more members who have previously served on a student group SSFC. The minority voters asked that their concern be included.
- Ms. Sweet clarified that this resolution was not in response to any issues and it was a protective measure for future committees.

SCSA members will vote on the resolutions at the October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Members discussed the following items to be explored at future meetings:

- Ms. Whyte thought it would be beneficial for members to view the “Breaking Barriers” video located here:
<https://diversity.umn.edu/gradededucation/breakingboundaries>
- The University’s relationship with TCF Bank. Ms. Whyte will independently research the topic and determine if it should be explored during a meeting. Local and national media sources have raised possible issues with universities having relationships with banks:
 - How is this relationship conveyed during orientation?
 - The U Card Office would be able to convey the process of signing up for a TCF account.
 - Is this a greater issue for international students?
 - How are other banking options made clear to students?

TWIN CITIES STUDENT AFFAIRS UPDATES

Members received a written report from Lisa Erwin, Vice Chancellor for Student Life, UMD, which was distributed via email for review. There were no questions from members at the meeting, but Vice Chancellor Erwin welcomed any future questions to be sent via email.

Amelious Whyte, chief of staff, Office for Student Affairs, UMTC, provided the following update to members:

- Danita Brown named Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.
- A soft-launch was conducted this fall for incoming freshman and transfer students at UMTC and UMD of the Everfi, online modules, Alcohol.edu, Haven, and Buttonwood. The modules educate students on alcohol consumption, financial literacy, and sexual assault. The sexual assault module is built into the Alcohol.edu module. Students will be invited to complete the second part of the modules later in the academic year. The following are completion rates for UMTC invited students:
 - 83% of invited students completed part 1 of Alcohol.edu
 - 76% of invited students completed part 1 of Buttonwood
- A new Mental Health Clinic has been opened on the St. Paul campus.

- If faculty or staff have concerns about a student's mental health, the website mentalhealth.umn.edu contains available resources.
- Responsive design is being implemented so that the website will display on mobile devices.
- There has been an increase in Greek Life interest and membership.
 - A new sorority has been added this year.
- Pillar House is a new Living Learning Community (LLC) that was created for students interested in Greek Life and contains 40 members.
 - Students of color interested in joining culturally based groups, benefit from this LLC because many do not recruit freshman.
- The renovations of the second floor of Coffman Union are complete and selected student groups have received office and storage space.
- University Recreation & Wellness opened an expansion to the Rec Center on September 2nd and anticipate receiving 2 million visitors in the next year.
- The Victory Lot is a student tailgate lot that was created to encourage students to attend the games. Student Affairs is recruiting ambassadors to help monitor the lot during games in addition to police and staff.
- Recreation & Wellness have been granted permission to apply for an alcohol license for the golf course. The University has seven licenses that can be applied for.

HEALTHY MINDS SURVEY RESULTS

David Golden, Director of Public Health and Communications, Boynton Health Services, distributed a handout that contained a portion of the results of the Healthy Minds Survey. He highlighted the following information relating to the survey:

- The Healthy Minds Survey has been conducted for the past eight years. The survey is from the University of Michigan, who is pioneering a public health approach to mental health.
- Data from the long and short-form of this survey are still being analyzed.
- The results are self-reported and are used as a screening tool.
- The entire report will be sent to members via email.

Members made the following comments after reviewing the results on the handout:

- Mr. Golden explained that tobacco usage and high risk drinking behavior is more prevalent in those struggling with mental health issues.
- The survey is anonymous so participants cannot be contacted after the survey. Mr. Golden stressed that there are still ways to help the population.
- In this survey, nine questions serve as the screen for major depression.
- One third of the population has been diagnosed with a mental disorder.
- The results will be publicized, but the communication plan has not yet been established.
- Questions regarding a stigma surrounding mental health conditions were discussed. It was noted that this is not the main deterrent of students

seeking help. Many reported not seeking help because they do not believe in the effectiveness of treatment.

- Mr. Golden suggested a joint data release meeting of the Social Concerns and Student Affairs Committees in November.

In the interest of time, Ms. Whyte adjourned the meeting.

Jeannine Rich
University Senate Office