SENATE COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 12, 2014

[In these minutes: GLBTA Programs Office; Gender neutral housing; IT Governance input gathering.]

[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 represents the view of, nor are they binding on the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Patricia Jones Whyte (chair), Lauren Beach, Peter Haeg, Joyce Holl, Meghan Sable, Michael Stebleton, Carlos Torelli, Kendre Turonie

GUESTS: Dennis Depp, Bernard Gulachek, Benjamin Nielsen, Susan Stubblefield, Stef Wilenchek

OTHERS: Jeremy Leiferman, Corbin Smyth, Gabriele Schmiegel

REGRETS: Thomas Bilder, Lisa Erwin, Matt Fredericks, Teddi Grego, Nader Helmy, Shivani Kushwaha, Kristen Lewis, Liza Meredith, Bryan Oliver Smith, Brandt Tharp, Lanqiu Wu, Amelious Whyte

Welcome

Dr. Patricia Jones Whyte, chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed those present, and called for introductions. She said that the committee would wait until the April meeting to vote on the student employment re-design.

GLBTA Programs Office

Stef Wilenchek, director, GLBTA Programs office, has been with the University since November 2013. She distributed the *Trans Inclusion Quick Guide* and explained that the guide is designed to help users become more trans inclusive. She then discussed issues that the GLBTA Programs Office confronts:
- Common experiences of trans and gender non-conformist individuals such as harassment on campus, in residence halls, events, physical violence, and preferred name resistance.
- They provide education and training that examines gender and gender barriers. An example of one of the exercises involves participants having a conversation without any use of gender.
- Four trainings are offered per semester and are for faculty, students, and staff. OED also offers a certificate program. In addition, the GLBTA Office provides trainings by request and speaks at classes, department meetings, and orientation.

- OED is involved in education and training, and reviewing University forms, publications, and documents that use gender unnecessarily, which is discriminative.
- The name change process is being reviewed to minimize the impact on transgender and non-conforming students.
- Where are gender neutral and inclusive spaces located? Bathrooms, locker rooms, etc. This information needs to be clearly communicated.
- The bias incident reporting system is in operation, but the GLBTA Office has not yet used this system to track incidence reports. Mr. Smyth noted that the Campus Climate Response Team provides a link for reporting incidents that harm the campus climate at Duluth: http://www.d.umn.edu/chancellor/climate/reporting/.

Professor Whyte thanked Ms. Wilenchek for speaking with the committee and offered the opportunity for her to return in the future.

Gender Neutral Housing

Susan Stubblefield, associate director of residential life, and Benjamin Nielsen, assistant residence director, Middlebrook Hall, both from Housing and Residential Life, spoke with the committee regarding gender-neutral housing on the TC campus. Ms. Stubblefield began by explaining that they strive to make students feel that it is a seamless process and that they are not placing a special request.

She said that in the current process, students have three options for indicating gender: male, female, and please contact. A member noted that "please contact" still singles out students and Ms. Stubblefield agreed and they are considering the best options that meet students' needs as the process goes forward. Annually there are approximately three to five students in the transitioning process and do not use a binary definition of gender.

She continued, the TC campus has robust housing offerings such as a single room, shared spaces, or traditional residence halls. As for the preferred name challenge in the residence halls, they have had a programmer insert a field for preferred name to ensure it displays on rosters and mailboxes.   She added that they have shared experiences with the Morris campus and meet with them twice per year.

They are currently developing a proposal that outlines identified spaces for "cluster housing." This consists of grouping rooms or housing with a gender open framework. All of the buildings are co-ed with gender identified bathrooms or bathrooms within units.

A pilot program is currently in place and the returning students for fall 2015 will have the option to apply for gender open housing. Looking forward they are considering the application process and offering students the option to live with a

gender other than their own. She suggested that this could increase student retention because students often want to live with their friends regardless of gender. They will determine the proportion of spaces that will be developed in this model based on future demands and as interest grows. They hope to take advantage of capital improvement projects with these considerations in mind.

"Lavender House is a GLBTA-centered living learning community of 15-25 students. Currently housed in Comstock Hall, Lavender House is the result of a collaboration across the GLBTA Programs Office & Housing and Residential Life" (https://diversity.umn.edu/glbta/lavenderhouse).

Mr. Smyth introduced Jeremy Leiferman, director, Housing and Residence Life, UMD, and said that they are taking advantage of this time as an opportunity to look at housing from a different perspective. UMD does not have the co-ed "checkerboard" style of housing, but they are exploring options.

Dr. Whyte thanked Ms. Stubblefield and Mr. Nielsen and is looking forward to hearing the progress of gender neutral housing at a future meeting.

IT Governance Input

Bernard Gulachek, associate vice president, Office of Information Technology, and Dennis Depp, associate CIO, Law School and OIT, began their presentation with a PowerPoint that visually depicted the IT governance model. Mr. Gulachek met with members last year at this time during the input gathering phase. He highlighted the following points in the presentation:
- What we heard from last year's process
  - Academic Technology (AT) Tools
  - End user support/computer management
  - Collaboration
  - All (Communications/Innovation)
  - Networking (esp. wireless)
  - AT Spaces
  - Video conferencing
- FY15 Input Leads to Top IT Community Priorities
  The FY15 governance process resulted in the following four priorities, which the IT@UMN community has been advancing via formal communities of practice (fCoPs):
  - Improving Academic Technology Tools
    Moodle improvements (Gradebook, listening methods, suggestion library).
  - Enhancing User Support
    Standard operating procedures implemented in five units and continues.
  - Improving WiFi

> ~400 access points enhanced, nearly 500 new access points installed by spring semester.
> - [Modernizing Learning Spaces](#)
>   Inventory of technology in spaces, considering learning spaces call-center consolidation.

- Additional Initiatives
  - Drupal Implementation.
  - CRM Implementation.
  - AHC Moves to Gmail.

Mr. Gulachek then asked members for their input:

- Constituent relationship management.
  - Need to roll out to units that have been waiting.
  - Make sure that we're working with the Grad School & Apply Yourself system. Dr. Whyte said that this system could be very valuable in recruitment efforts.
- More faculty communications and education for academic tools.
  - Expand academic tools to Grad Assistants, etc.
- Web-based project management tools.
- Simplify Moodle interface - can be overwhelming.
  - Members suggested that education on Moodle usage be developed or more widespread at basic and advanced levels. Not all users will need advanced functionality training.
  - Ms. Sable, student representative from UMR, noted that she has had a better experience with iSeal, as opposed to Moodle.
- Increased academic technologist support for faculty.
- Automated form management/workflow – improve administrative access to data, resources, and a more robust exception process for things like preferred name.
- Create AHC administrative password exception process for those who do not have ePHI.
- More details on the current Formal Communities of Practice is available at: http://it.umn.edu/home/priorities/current-priorities.

Mr. Gulachek encouraged members to complete the survey, share it, and get their friends to complete it as well:
https://umn.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_egKDQSpJxNqeLYx.

Hearing no further business, Dr. Whyte adjourned the meeting.

Jeannine Rich
University Senate Office