

# STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 7, 1998

626 Campus Club (CMU)

3:00 PM

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In these minutes:

Student Advising Reform Resolution, Leadership Curriculum Project, Administrative Budget Cuts, Class Ending Times, Boynton Health Services, and Updates from the offices of MSA and OSDA

## MINUTES

**Present:** Kathleen Peterson (Chair), Jane Canney, Patrick Kroll, Ted Labuza, Maren Mahowald, John Romano, Diane Wartchow, Sabeen Altaf, Jesse Berglund, Thomas Haakenson, Brittany Leigh, Laura Taken, Britta Ylikopsa, Edward Ehlinger, Phil Morgan

**Regrets:** Laura Langer, Susan Daniels, Jeffrey Olson

**Absent:** Katie Dudley

**Guests:** Esther Peralez and Steph Nixon, Office of Student Development and Athletics

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate or Twin Cities Campus Assembly; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes reflect the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate or Assembly, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

The Student Affairs Committee met at 3:00 PM on Wednesday, January 7, 1998 in 626 Campus Club in Coffman Memorial Union on the East Bank of the University of Minnesota.

### INTRODUCTIONS.

Kathie Peterson, Chair, reintroduced herself and welcomed everyone to the University Senate Student Affairs Committee; she asked those present to introduce him/herself and identify his/her major and/or department affiliations.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

The minutes from the November 19, 1997 meeting were approved as written.

### STUDENT ADVISING REFORM RESOLUTION.

Jesse Berglund, Chair of the Student Senate, distributed a draft resolution titled, "Advising Reform Resolution" to all committee members. He reported that the resolution was written last year by an MSA Academic Affairs Subcommittee (Dana Waldvogel, Jarad Niemi, and Corey Donovan). He added that the resolution was formulated in response to

student complaints about academic advising across the University; the subcommittee also consulted with the Senate Committees on Education Policy and Finance and Planning. Committee members took time to review the draft resolution, a discussion was held, and the following suggestions were made:

- Review last year's MSA meeting minutes for clarification of student complaints
- Refine the specific goals of the resolution as much as possible
- Clarify the definition of "advising"
- Consult with members of the current advising network for their input
- Stress that advising is an important component for student success at this university
- Consider career advising as well as academic advising in the resolution
- Invite representatives from the advising network as well as the new Web-based project to attend the next meeting and provide input

The committee discussed the option of forming a special task force to assess student's needs in relation to the current advising services for each college. However, formation of this task will be postponed until more information is available about the impetus for the draft resolution in MSA. Members of the committee agreed that student satisfaction with the advising services at this university is an important issue that warrants further consideration by this committee. Kathie Peterson reported that a copy of the report from the advising subcommittee of the new student experience will be made available to committee members prior to the next meeting; she and Kate Stuckert will also work on inviting members of the web team and advising network to attend a committee meeting in the near future.

#### **MINNESOTA STUDENT ASSOCIATION (MSA).**

Britta Ylikopsa reported that the Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC) chair reported to MSA about a letter from the White House which was sent to different universities requesting input on the new White House Policy on Race Relations. It was suggested that although this could be an important issue for the Student Affairs Committee to consider, a copy of the letter should also be provided to the Social Concerns Committee for their review in order to determine which committee would be most appropriate to consider this request. Britta will talk to the LAC chair for more information and will report back to the committee; she will also try to obtain a copy of the actual letter.

#### **OFFICE OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & ATHLETICS (OSDA).**

Ester Peralez and Steph Nixon from OSDA distributed a handout and made a presentation to committee members about the Leadership Curriculum Project. The impetus for looking deeper into leadership programs and curriculum for credit came out of focus groups with the Campus Involvement Center a couple years ago. Students at that time were stating that they were very excited about opportunities for leadership development, particularly the ability to receive credit in those areas. The framework of the project has been to develop a model that would pull everything together by organizing the leadership development opportunities that currently exist on campus and creating new opportunities to complement those existing programs.

An overall background of the project was provided, covering a minor in leadership development, courses in leadership development, and a focus on the social change model; for example, the social change model concentrates first on developing individual values, then group values, and then societal/citizenship values. The leadership experience will educate by linking interactive co-curricular and academic experiences while promoting responsibility, application of knowledge, enhancement of skills, building understanding, and integrating service across multiple contexts. The purpose of the project is also to develop individual capacity for continuous leadership development, appreciation and respect for differences, affecting social change, and global citizenship.

Before meeting with the Student Affairs Committee, OSDA had met with several other offices to discuss the leadership curriculum project, including the diversity cluster that reports to Associate Vice President Rusty Barcelo and the Council of Undergraduate Deans. OSDA is also working together with the Associate Dean Karen Seashore Louis in the College of Education as well as the Reflective Leadership Program in the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute. In addition, the Director of the Women's Studies Department is planning to add a women in leadership component to their program

and is very excited to collaborate on this project with OSDA. Although the College of Education is developing the curriculum, the project has been and will be the focus of widespread collaboration across all offices at the University.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET CUTS.**

Jane Canney reported that the Office for Student Development & Athletics has been charged with making a reduction in 6.5 full-time administrators, in addition to a reduction of \$266,000 in O&M funding as part of the administrative cuts proposed by President Yudof this year. The office is now challenged with how they do their work and how they can do it differently in light of the proposed budget cuts. Committee members expressed concern about how the budget cuts might affect student services at the university and proposed that the Chair draft a statement to the President recommending that the quality of services offered by OSDA not be jeopardized in the process of administrative cuts. The statement should also stress that University-wide student services in particular are critical to student success at the University. Kathie Peterson offered to draft such a statement and will circulate it to committee members for their review before sending a final letter to the President.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS.**

Kathie Peterson reported that the question of mandatory class ending times at the university was raised at the last meeting. According to University College, no such policy exists. Individual departments and colleges are free to determine class ending times. Unfortunately, the decision as to when the connector bus service ends in the evening is made separately from the class schedule decisions.

Professor Ed Ehlinger, Director of Boynton Health Service, distributed copies of the *1996-97 Boynton Health Service Annual Report* to all committee members at the meeting for their information; additional copies can be obtained by calling 625-8400. He also distributed documentation of written communication between VP for Student Development and Athletics McKinley Boston, Senior VP for Health Sciences Frank Cerra, and President Mark Yudof regarding the quality of services students receive at Boynton.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.