

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
MINUTES OF MEETING

October 12, 2011

Morrill Hall Room 238A

[In these minutes: orientation; discussion with student governance leaders; ad hoc committee report; tobacco-free campus resolution; Office of Student Affairs update]

[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: Joyce Holl (Co-Chair), Silvia Canelon (Co-Chair), Amelious Whyte, Anthony Albecker, Kendre Turonie, Lauren Schrader, Amber Peifer, Thomas Bilder, Carlos Torelli, Michael Stebleton,

REGRETS: Brandee Polson, Patricia Nguyen, Elena Machkasova, Rachael Nguyen

ABSENT: Nathan Pelzer, Kristy Eder,

GUESTS: David Golden, director, Public Health and Communications, Boynton Health Service; Buchi AKPEH and Michelle Volz, 2011-12 co-chairs, SHAC, Sean Corvin, chair, AHC Student Senate Consultative Committee; Adam Matula, chair, Student Senate Consultative Committee

OTHERS: Lisa Erwin, vice chancellor for student life, Duluth

Joyce Holl convened the meeting, welcomed those present, and called for introductions.

Committee Orientation

Silvia Canelon reviewed the committee's charge and explained the proposed changes to the charge made by both the SCSA and the Ad hoc Committee reviewing the SCSA (Ad hoc Committee). She stated the SCSA voted to eliminate the section of the charge creating a Student Services Fee Subcommittee, but maintain its duty to review reports from the Student Services Fee Committees. Changes to the charge recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee are: 1) eliminating the language referring to an obsolete policy on registration and classification of student groups and 2) changing the charge to reflect the SCSA's line of reporting to the Student Senate Consultative Committee.

Dawn Zugay, committee specialist, University Senate Office, provided the committee with an overview of the University Senate governance structure and the committee's role. Her presentation included:

- Organization of the University Senate and its committees
- Role of committee members
 - general and ex officio

- Committee options for action including: statements, resolutions, and creation or amendment of policies
- Process for bringing a resolution from a Senate committee to the Student Senate and the University Senate

Ms. Holl and Ms. Canelon emphasized the importance of committee participation and thanked committee members for their work. Ms. Holl then recapped the SCSA's agenda in 2010-11. She noted the committee would continue its work to reach out to the student governance organizations on the Twin Cities and coordinate campuses. Ms. Canelon next reviewed the list of proposed 2011-12 agenda items. These included:

- Report on result of ad hoc committee review of SCSA
- Increasing communication with student governance groups
- Follow up on changes to the Student Conduct Code
- Follow up on status of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and student governance.
- Follow up on implementation of Boynton Health Services Comprehensive Waiver
- Changes to Student Health Benefit Plan – regarding benefits for transgender students
- Student Health Advisory Committee - Tobacco Free Campus initiative
- National College Health Improvement Project (NCHIP) Alcohol Collaborative
- Update from Housing and Residential Life
- Update from International Student Scholarship Service and the Global Programs & Strategy Alliance
- Report on Student Services Fees
- University efforts to help students find jobs after graduation.
- The impact of the economy on retention of students

Amelious Whyte, chief-of-staff, Office of Student Affairs (OSA) commented that Jerry Rinehart, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, is leading the Alcohol Collaborative at the University of Minnesota, and would be able to provide the committee with further information on this topic.

Ms. Canelon asked committee members to email Dawn Zugay at zuga0001@umn.edu with any other items they would like the committee to consider.

Discussion with Student Governance Leadership AHCSCC, and Student Senate

Sean Corvin, chair, AHC Student Senate Consultative Committee (AHCSCC) and Adam Matula, chair, Student Senate Consultative Committee (SSCC) provided updates on the upcoming work of their respective committees. Mr. Corvin noted the schools represented by the AHCSCC and stated the issues it will be considering are:

- Costs associated with clinical rotations
- The impact of the University-wide conflict of interest policy
- Inter-professional education among students

Mr. Corvin noted that employers have expressed a desire that the health sciences students have the ability to work inter-professionally, and that AHCSCC will be hosting a forum on this topic.

Mr. Matula explained that the SSCC is the steering committee for the Student Senate, and the committee through which SCSA issues pass en route to the Student Senate. Issues the SCC is working on include:

- The Board of Regents logo
- The Memorandum of Understanding
- Reviewing the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee Report on the SCSA
- Increasing communication with the Minnesota Student Legislative Coalition (MSLA)
- Appointing a representative to the MSLA
- Working on campus safety in collaboration with the MSA
- Establishing a strong relationship with the new administration

Ad Hoc Committee Review of the Senate Committee on Student Affairs

Ms. Holl provided the committee with copies of the Ad Hoc Committee Report on the SCSA. She provided the SCSA with the background of the report and its conclusions. She noted that the SCSA was not singled out for review, but it was part of a larger review of all Senate committees. She went on to state that after the report has been reviewed and approved by the SSCC and Senate Consultative Committee (SCC), the SCSA would be asked to implement its recommendations. Some of these recommendations include:

- Continued system-wide representation by the SCSA with steps to: 1) increase participation by coordinate campus students and student affairs administrators, and 2) ensure issues unique to the coordinate campuses are addressed by the SCSA when appropriate.
- The number of students on the SCSA should be increased from nine (9) to twelve (12) for the 2011-12 academic-year.
- SCSA co-chairs Joyce Holl and Silvia Canelon should meet with the Student Committee on Committees to discuss the ad hoc committee's concerns regarding: 1) the timing of student appointments and 2) ensuring that there is diverse student representation on the SCSA.
- Creating a work plan for regular communication with the appropriate administrators in the areas of housing and residential life, student advising, and international student services.
- Updating the SCSA charge to remove obsolete language in paragraph "b" referring to the SCSA's relationship with Student Organizations.
- The SCSA should continue reporting to the SSCC. If at the end of the 2011-12 academic year, the SCSA determines this line of reporting is ineffective, it can raise that issue with the SSC and SSCC leadership.

The SCSA discussed methods for placing students on committees earlier in the semester. Several members suggested making the appointments in the preceding spring and reserving seats for freshman and transfer students. Professor Anthony Albecker asked if

there are mechanisms for insuring underrepresented students are on University Senate committees. Mr. Whyte explained that an e-mail goes out to all students inviting them to apply, but there are no explicit mechanisms for ensuring the participation of underrepresented groups. It was suggested that notices could be placed in advising newsletters so that advisors could encourage the participation of students.

Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) Tobacco-Free Campus Resolution

David Golden, director, Public Health and Communications, Boynton Health Service, Buchi AKPEH and Michelle Volz, 2011-12 SHAC co-chairs, requested the committee's support for SHAC's resolution that the Twin Cities campus become entirely tobacco-free by January of 2012. Ms. Volz and Mr. AKPEH provided the committee with copies of SHAC's letter to President Kaler, its resolution, *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke*, and a news article regarding Minnesota State University's decision to become a tobacco-free campus in January 2012. Ms. Volz noted several factors in favor of the campus wide tobacco ban.

- The current 25 foot rule does not seem effective
- 586 colleges and universities including the University of Minnesota's Duluth, Crookston, and Moorhead campuses are tobacco-free
- The American College Health Association recommends no tobacco use for all colleges
- The policy would decrease medical care and cleaning costs at the University

Ms. Volz also noted that SHAC has developed an implementation plan and would like to announce the policy in January 2012.

Mr. Corvin asked about the difficulty of enforcing a tobacco-free campus policy. Mr. Golden acknowledged that enforcement is an issue, but stated that most smoke-free Universities have utilized social enforcement and the focus has been on driving smoking out of public places on campus. Ms. Holl asked how great a problem is caused by smoking on campus. Mr. Golden responded that the University is one of the leading locations for exposure to second-hand smoke because second-hand smoke has been eliminated in most other public locations. He cited information from the Surgeon General's report that there is no "risk-free" level of exposure to secondhand smoke, and noted that the evidence of the detrimental effects of the second and third-hand smoke has grown each year.

Mr. Corvin stated that most individuals who are still smoking are likely addicted, and asked Mr. Golden what steps Boynton Health Service is taking to help students stop smoking. Mr. Golden stated Nicotine Replacement Therapy is a free to all students, faculty, and staff. There was also a cessation program this fall that offered gift certificates as an incentive to stop smoking.

The SCSA also discussed the effectiveness of designated smoking locations ("hot spots") on campus. Mr. Golden relayed that hot spots become unpleasant areas and most universities that have tried this approach have eliminated them.

Kendre Turonie raised the potential community relation's issues involved in pushing smoking off campus and into the surrounding communities. She noted the importance of communicating and possibly partnering with the businesses surrounding the University. Mr. Golden agreed that signage and communication about the policy are important. Ms. Turonie offered to assist SHAC in notifying surrounding communities.

Ms. Holl stated the committee would take SHAC's request for support of its resolution under advisement and would vote on it at its November meeting.

Office of Student Affairs Update

Mr. Whyte used a power point presentation to update the committee on the Office of Student Affairs work since May 2011.

- Strengths Initiative
 - The Strengths Finder is an online assessment that identifies an individual's top five talents.
 - The Strengths Finder was made available to all new freshman in 2011 and over 92% took it.
 - Transfer students will be added in Fall 2012
 - Its results have been integrated into advising, student conduct, and student employment
 - Some goals of the program are to:
 - increase confidence, engagement, and responsibility
 - create a common language
 - achieve student learning and development outcomes
 - increase graduation and retention.

- Staffing
 - Boynton Health Services search for a director is nearing completion.
 - Aurora Center director is retiring
 - Office for Fraternity and Sorority Life – search for a director is underway

- Campus Safety
 - Safety is Easy Campaign - pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle safety
 - tickets are being issued for bicycling on the Scholars Walk
 - stop sign might be added at Eddy Hall
 - Sexual Violence Prevention Consultant Recommendations
 - OSA is considering how to implement recommendations proposed last Spring by the sexual violence prevention consultant
 - Stand Up / Bystander Education Campaigns are continuing

- Campus Safety and Alcohol
 - The Other Hangover- Additional funding has been received to continue this initiative at the University of Minnesota and expand it to Augsburg and St. Catherine's Universities.
 - NCHIP – Is a collaboration of 32 schools working to reduce high risk drinking

- goal is to reduce binge drinking and negative consequences by 20% over three years
 - when students utilize health services, they will be screened for alcohol use.
- Conduct Code Revisions
 - There is draft language in the Student Conduct Code regarding bullying, but issues of cyber bullying are still being discussed
 - Unresolved conduct issues following completion of degree requirements
 - Clarification of scope in terms of post-graduation discovery of misconduct during time as student
 - Potential revision to appeals policy
- Boynton Health Services
 - The “comprehensive waiver” for student health insurance recommended by Boynton Health Service and endorsed by the SCSA has not yet gone into effect. It is being considered by the new administration.
- Student Unions
 - Committee formed to determine how to reorganize the student organization and student cultural center space in Coffman Union.
 - Percentage of cultural center and student governance space will remain the same
 - Cubicles will be eliminated, and there will be more shared space
- University Counseling and Consulting Services
 - Case management staff person is being hired to assist students with health and behavioral needs
 - West bank/residence hall counselor is being hired.
- Student Service Fees
 - Review of the Student Service Fee process will begin this fall and will consider:
 - appeals process
 - definition of summer operations
 - minimum application fee amount
 - large scale events
 - Committee will be co-chaired by a student and staff member
- OSA Special Projects
 - African-American Student Network
 - Vice Provost’s Committee on Non-Traditional Student Affairs.
- Housing Residential Life International Curriculum
 - Helps integrate international students and helps domestic students become more globally aware

- Some of the programs include:
 - Students Crossing Borders community in Middlebrook Hall
 - Training and resources for Community Advisors
 - International Bulletin – weekly newsletter

Lisa Erwin, vice chancellor student life, Duluth, noted that her office had been working on the issue of bullying, and would like to provide input on the changes to the Student Conduct Code mentioned by Mr. Whyte. Mr. Whyte responded he believed Cat Riley had been involved in the process, but he would follow up with Vice Chancellor Erwin.

Vice Chancellor Erwin also stated she would like to receive a bullet point list of items the SCSA is looking for in the annual student services fees report it receives from the coordinate campuses. Mr. Whyte stated OSA is creating a template for the student services fees report, and would make it available to the coordinate campus student service fee committees.

Hearing no further business, Ms. Holl adjourned the meeting.

Dawn Zugay
University Senate Office