

STUDENT SENATE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (SSCC)

MINUTES OF MEETING

October 23, 2014

[In these minutes: MyU Portal Overview; Student Health Benefit Plan discussion; New Business]

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

PRESENT: Valkyrie Jensen (chair), Martin Caride, Cedric Citrowske, Nick Dalton, Sara Ford, Rob Stewart

GUEST: Sue Van Voorhis, registrar, Academic Support Resources (ASR); Ingrid Nuttall, director, Academic Records, ASR

REGRETS: Laddie Arnold, Ryan Olson, Olivia Stiller, Alex Stangel (vice chair)

ABSENT: None

1. WELCOME

Ms. Jensen convened the meeting and called for introductions.

2. MYU PORTAL UPDATE

Sue Van Voorhis, registrar, ASR, and Ingrid Nuttall, director of academic records, ASR, led a presentation on the upcoming implementation of the new MyU Portal. Ms. Van Voorhis walked members through a handout titled “Course Information” and highlighted the following features of the new PeopleSoft MyU Portal:

- The New MyU
 - It will know individuals and show them information that pertains to them, such as students will see tabs that lead to their course information.
 - If action needs to be taken there will be notifications that will link you to where you need to go.
- Student Systems Upgrade Approach
 - OneStop website is not being eliminated, as that will be used by those that are outside of the University.

- Many of the systems are now delivered through PeopleSoft, however APlus, APAS, and Graduation Planner will continue to be used, though they are not delivered.
- New Experience for Students
 - A graphic displayed that separate systems are being retired and integrated into the portal.
- Academics
 - Moodle will be directly linked to the Academics tab.
 - On the Academics tab, students will see a schedule of their enrolled classes. Tabs across the top allow access to more information in a single space.
 - Enrollment tools, like class search and registration, appear across the bottom.
 - The locations of the tabs are subject to change after usability testing.
- Course Guide - replaced with a class note containing a URL
 - Course Guide participation has remained below 50%, despite efforts to increase usage.
 - As an alternative, a link to class section information will be included in the course catalog description. This link can be to a past syllabus, a department website, or any other information that relates to the course. The department and/or the instructor will be responsible for providing the link. They recommend that this be a link to a central site so that the link will not need to be changed when the instructor changes. This link can be added at any time, which is not the case with the current Course Guide. This will be made public to all students and prospective students.
 - The link can be to a password-protected site to protect privacy and intellectual property.
 - Link can be maintained by a class scheduler and can be updated by faculty from the Faculty Center.
- Communications Approach
 - Toolkits - audience focused web pages
 - Faculty, staff, & student - centered resources
 - Promotional Campaign
 - Strategic communications
 - Build awareness and direct behavior
 - Increase in communications before registration
- Stay Connected
 - upgrade.umn.edu
 - For details on changes to processes and reports
 - esup@umn.edu
 - For any questions, comments, concerns
 - Request a visit

- presentations offered to your college

The presenters then asked for member questions and comments:

- Q: Is there a schedule builder?
 - A: There is a schedule builder, but it does not enroll you in courses. Schedule Builder, which is in One Stop now, will still be available.
- Q: Will users be required to log in more than once to access scheduling and financial pages?
 - A: You will only be required to log in once. Privacy concerns have been taken into consideration in the design of the portal.
- Q: Will all information be included even if you are registered in courses on different campuses?
 - A: Yes. In the Enrollment tab, all colleges, programs, and campuses will be viewable from the portal.

An overview will be provided at the December Student Senate meeting.

3. STUDENT HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN DISCUSSION

Sara Ford, Veterinary Medicine and Public Health student, presented concerns related to the elimination of the AHC Student Health Benefit Plan. Many students are having issues because they cannot receive medications from pharmacies other than Boynton Health Service (BHS) Pharmacy. She highlighted the following issues:

- The AHC Student Health Benefit Plan was eliminated because it was provided to a smaller group of students, which made it increasingly expensive for the University.
- The hours of the BHS Pharmacy are limited. Only the Twin Cities location is open on Saturday and no locations are open on Sunday. For example, a student, while at a HealthPartners clinic on a Sunday, was given an inhaler and because it was not provided by BHS, they were charged \$300, the out-of-pocket fee, as opposed to \$15, the copay fee.
- Over 80% of the AHC students chose the more expensive AHC Student Health Benefit Plan because it met their needs.
- Blue Cross Blue Shield approved clinics are covered at 80%, but if students receive medication from a clinic this will not be covered.
- Students with chronic ailments that rely on medications that are not carried by BHS Pharmacy are being especially harmed in this change. Many students reported being unaware of the coverage change until they went to get a prescription refilled. Students with chronic conditions that require medications not offered by BHS were forced to pay the out-of-pocket fee, which in some cases cost up to \$1,700, to avoid a relapse.
- Many students are no longer within the age range to have coverage under their parents.

- A completely new insurance plan would be required to get pharmacy benefits under the Affordable Care Act.
- Ms. Ford said they would like either a supplemental pharmacy plan or an option to pay more for an increase in benefits.

Members discussed:

- The pharmacy limitations are the most problematic part of the Student Health Benefit Plan in many students' experiences.
- Ms. Ford will be attending a meeting of the AHC Student Consultative Committee to gather more information on how they feel about these changes and she will report back to the committee.
- Members agreed they would like to know more information as to why this change was made and if anything can be done to meet student needs.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Jensen opened up the discussion for members to raise new business.

Members discussed the following issues:

- The closing of Post Secondary Teaching and Learning. Ms. Jensen will be meeting with Dean Quam to learn more about this decision.
- Syllabi Release - Ms. Jensen will be meeting with Professor Wick, chair, Education Policy Committee,
- Midterm Evaluations - This would give instructors feedback from the students in the middle of the term. A letter could be sent from the Student Senate, MSA, and GAPSA to all faculty encouraging this practice.
 - Veterinary Medicine completes midterm evaluations and there is a staff person that collects and summarizes the data and presents it to the instructors.
- Graduate Student Bill of Rights - It is being developed by COGS and they hope this will be voted on at the Student Senate meeting in December.
- The American Indian Student Cultural Center (AISCC) is asking that the team not be invited back to TCF and the name "Redskins" not be used during the game. Members voted unanimously in favor of the efforts of the AISCC.

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

Jeannine Rich
University Senate Office