

# Meeting Minutes

## Senate Student Welfare Committee

### April 13, 2017

#### Members Present:

\***Karen Bresciano, Chair**, Student Affairs

\*Peter Gogarten, Molecular & Cell Biology

\*Karl Guillard, CAHNR

\*Patricia Jepson, CAHNR Academic Advisory

\*Christine Wilson, Student Activities

Thomas Briggs, Graduate Student Senate

Kate Fuller, UConn Libraries

Michael Gilbert, VP Student Affairs (Ex Officio Member)

Erin Mason, Registrar's Office

#### Introductions

#### Old Items

Donna Korbel and Kimberly Mckeown from the Center for Students with Disabilities gave a brief snapshot of the Center for Students with Disabilities. They talked with the Committee about accommodations and how accommodations are communicated to students and faculty. Donna said the most difficult accommodation the office grants is a class absence, and this is granted in consultation with faculty. The first step to the accommodation process is that a student discloses themselves as a student with disabilities. Once the student registers with the Center, they are assigned a disability services provider. There are also disability provider specialists who work with student populations specifically ADHD, Autism, and Veterans. The student meets with the disability services provider to discuss their functional limitations. The disability provider writes an accommodation letter for the student, emails the student's faculty members, and the student is copied on this email. The Center cannot restrict when students register with the office based on civil rights legislation. Federal law requires the Center respond to students in a timely manner, review their documentation, make a determination about appropriate accommodations, and communicate these accommodations to faculty.

University policy states students must register with the Center to receive accommodations. If students talk with faculty about their specific conditions and requests for accommodations, it is encouraged to refer students to the Center for appropriate documentation and accommodations.

The Center engages in an individualized, interactive process with every student. Retroactive accommodations are not something the Center does regularly but needs to be considered. The Center is working with lots of students who have varying needs including students with ADHD, Autism, psychological health conditions, learning disabilities, and chronic health conditions. The Center sees a huge increase in numbers of students after midterms. Currently, the Center is working with about 3,340 students, although these numbers increase on a daily basis.

There is a current search to hire disability personnel for the Stamford and Waterbury campus, and the School of Social Work, Avery Point, and Hartford campuses.

#### Report from the Diversity Committee- Pat Jepson

The Interim Provost spoke to the Committee. Elizabeth Conklin will be coming to a meeting in early May.

#### Report from the Growth and Development Committee- Tina McCarthy

No report.

#### Brief Student Affairs Update- Michael Gilbert

Michael provided updates on a new educational program for rising juniors addressing sexual assault prevention called the "Not Anymore Campaign." On average, the course took students about 63 minutes and about 7,818 students have completed the course. This program will be required for rising juniors to complete before they can register for classes. Michael also talked about a new student support group through Counseling and Mental Health Services called "Living with Diverse Identities: Supporting Each Other Through Complex Times." This is a confidential support group for UConn students who identify as minority group members.

## New Items

### Smoke Free Campus Policy

This is a future topic for the Committee regarding whether or not UConn should be a smoke-free campus. Over 1,000 college campuses are smoke-free.

### Policing Academic Buildings

Concern was raised about undergraduate students in the academic buildings after-hours, safety concerns and damage to buildings. There was a suggestion offered for undergraduates to patrol academic buildings. Classroom/academic building security is not centralized. There is question on who/what office should monitor the classrooms/academic buildings. Erin said a Classroom Committee has been convened and she will bring these concerns to the Committee.

### New Chair- Christine Wilson

Christine Wilson will be the next Chair of the Senate Student Welfare Committee.

## Tabled items

Safety concerns regarding motorbikes, lack of crosswalks and lighting around campus

Finals Schedule and Finals Rescheduling By-Laws

Reading Day and Academic Calendar