

Student Welfare Committee Meeting Notes

September 6, 2018

1. Attendance: Christine M. Wilson (chair); Kim Colbert (Admin. Support); Members: Jennifer Gattilia, Rebecca Bacher, Cinnamon Adams, Maureen Armstrong, Donna Korbel, Shelly Reel, Tina McCarthy, Peter Gogarten, and Mei Wei (call in).
2. Introductions and reasons for being part of this committee were shared. Christine thanked all participants, encouraged all to bring ideas and issues to the table, don't leave any perspectives out, and continue talking beyond the monthly meetings.
3. Reviewed last year's topics:
 - a. Student safety
 - i. Building access, crosswalks, and lighting
 - b. Building access related to student organization meetings and student use, performance groups and practice
 - c. Preferred/Chosen names, challenges involved.
 - d. DACA
 - e. Puerto Rico
 - f. Posting Policy (revised)
 - g. Student organization event review procedures
 - h. Adverse events protocol
 - i. Guidelines for preferred (chosen) pronouns:
 - i. Guidelines will be provided in the next update with the registrar's office
 - ii. How to be accommodating to students' preference
 - iii. American names for international students
 - iv. Still many questions exist
4. Ideas for this year's topics
 - a. There is an Active Learning Spaces Committee (formerly the Classroom Committee) – What are other schools doing? Went to conference and brought back ideas. Invite Peter Diplock or John Volin to come talk about this issue?
 - b. Emergency management
 - i. Students do ask about lockdown drills.
 - ii. Emergency Management Website has newly added information.
 - iii. What is the status of specific buildings / classrooms and preparedness?
 - c. Guidance for faculty on what to do if a student gets sick?
 - d. Need information on the new Spring to Storrs program and regional students living at Storrs.
 - e. Tina mentioned "Sleep" as an important topic—analysis, nap pods, blue lighting, etc.
 - f. Other populations of students and how best to serve them—Spring to Storrs, Regional Campus students, commuters.
 - g. Graduate student mental health—anxiety, depression, etc.
 - h. Food and Security (food drives, etc., resources for food, homelessness; what information do we have on the scope of the need)
 - i. Instructors giving final exams week before finals
 - j. Rec center update / tour

There appear to be 4 or 5 different categories of topics of interest: mental health and wellness (including varying manifestations based on student status), physical safety, diversity and inclusion. And we need to consider what other committees are addressing to either encourage collaboration or prevent overlap.

5. Meeting adjourned: 2:30 p.m.
6. Next meeting: October 4, 2 pm, Senate Conference Room.