

# Student Welfare Committee Meeting Notes

11/1/18

Meeting called to order at 1 p.m.

**Attendance taken:** Christine Wilson, Kim Colbert, Kelly Bartlett (phone in), Mei Wei, Michael Gilbert, Shelly Reel, Kelly Kennedy, Rebecca Bacher, Cinnamon Adams, Erin Curry, Peter Gogarten, Donna Korbel, Elizabeth Conklin, Jenn Longa, Kate Fuller (phone), Tina McCarthy.

- Reviewed last month's notes. No comments or changes made.
- New nametags needed for USG and GSS reps.
- Elizabeth Conklin (Assoc. VP of Institutional Equity) and Jenn Longa (Asst. Dean of Students) are scheduled to come and speak at this meeting regarding support and training for faculty and staff who have students report sexual violence/abuse.
- Diversity Committee is also interested in this topic; Christine will speak to them to present all information to Senate.
- No USG reps attended today. Wish to schedule meetings next time to include student reps. Erin Curry from GSS is here today.
- Cinnamon Adams and Becky Bacher have joined the Academic Integrity Task Force.

## **GSS Update**

Erin Curry – Vice President of GSS

- Last meeting discussed possible upcoming legal matters regarding affirmative action, more diversity, matters important among the graduate students.
- Discussion about graduate students' time off in contract.
- Spoke with union reps and president.
- Very clear in the contract but needs even more clarification.
- We are told that graduate students rarely participate on committees. CMW asked why this is so. Do they get information, training, guidance, orientation, etc.? It is the duty of the chair to take on this responsibility, to relay the "rules of the game."
- At GSS meeting, people said they do not get enough orientation.

## **Presentation by Elizabeth Conklin and Jenn Longa began at 1:15 p.m.**

**Topic:** What are the reporting responsibilities of faculty/staff when students report sexual violence/abuse, what resources and training exist?

- Elizabeth provided handouts for all participants: Reporting and Resources Brochure and What to Do.
- The office has materials for all campuses and have documents translated into various languages.
- [TitleIX.uconn.edu](http://TitleIX.uconn.edu) – Page for Faculty and Staff which offers support and Sexual Assault, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking Awareness. This is "passive" support. What is more active?
- UConn reports to the State Legislature on what employees receive for training. Faculty often do not attend new employee orientation, but may in the future.

- 2 hours of sexual harassment prevention training, including modules on how to handle these incidents, is provided by the University to all employees and GAs.
- Also Management Support and Training – newly hired managers are encouraged to complete within the first 6 months.
- 150 people still need this training over the next year.
- Target who is most likely to get the reports. Adjuncts have to do an online module. 67 still have not completed it.
- The following departments offer additional training to their staff: ResLife, Police, Cultural Centers, Coaches/Trainers, Academic Advising, faculty in some departments, Student organizations/advisors/student leaders.
- Trying to hit every department with training.
- There is a new form on the Title IX website—Training Request Form. There is also a Reporting Form. Anything reported always receives a phone call back from the OIE.
- Once a report is made and initially responded to, the report goes to Jenn Longa. A small circle of “need to know” employees meet weekly to discuss all cases.
- Jenn learns of the case, reaches out to student, sends a purposely vague (to protect safety) email at first with links to resources.
- 80% reply back. Some right away, many come meet, some much later.
- Jenn will meet with student, go through options (investigations, resources, move student, health services, no contact orders, emails to professors, etc.) May meet several times, just for support.
- After case is closed, it can still be reopened. Try to keep it as private as possible.
- OIE handles all complaints against employers, on and off campus.
- Discrimination and harassment by patients and their families (School of Health)
- Internship/externship employer discrimination (School of Business)--Students take Title IX wherever they go
- Training is provided every year since 2009.
- Online sexual harassment training
- Compliance training
- Extra training by OIE, show up to departments. Not as much for faculty, but they can do the training for anyone.
- Elizabeth gets in front of the department heads at least twice a year.
- What does faculty do after training? How to move on afterwards? Possibly provide more training on this moving forward.
- Employees and GAs can go to Ombuds and EAP.
- Summary—there is a lot of support, training and resources. People just don’t necessarily know about it all.
- What are our conclusions? Outcomes? Outputs? We will discuss more at next meeting.

### **Hunger-Related Issues**

- Christine and Maureen are working on this issue in various ways. Information will be put on Dean of Students website. Kelly asked if regional campuses can also have this.
- Dining hall jobs give students free meals.
- Other aid is also available (Michael is also looking into this).

- Students DO present this concern.
- They can get repackaged by Financial Aid (referred to FA)
- Students First Fund (for students who experience hardships)
- Several food banks close to campus that dining services works with
- Again, resources exist, people just don't know about them—need awareness.
- Group of students is doing food insecurity student/survey—UConn Café. Working on both pop-up food bank and informational session in November in the Student Union.

### **Other Business**

- Kelly Bartlett – 2 groups (Regionals living at Storrs and Spring to Storrs admitted students)
- Have big concerns—how are they doing academically and otherwise. What resources are they using, how does it affect their identity/community?
- How can we support these populations?
- Cinnamon—Career Diversity support for Grad Students. Graduate students who are not going into faculty or academia positions don't feel comfortable with their advisors.
- Speakers do not come to speak about other careers besides academia. There are so many research seminars—no other business. Can get funding from GSS or elsewhere for other types of speakers.

**Next meeting, December 6, 2018, 2 p.m.**