

Student Welfare Committee Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2020

Introductions

Approval of the September meeting minutes

Angela motion to approve

Jen second

September meeting minutes approved

Discussion of October 5th Senate meeting topics

- Proposal for Pass/Fail changes for current semester
 - November 20 based on last day of on campus learning
 - Only 3 for the career
 - All need to be approved by advisor
 - Not all students are eligible for this option
 - Transferability issues – high pass/low pass
 - Many students put passing grades on pass/fail
 - Standard semester gen ed, major or minor requirement on pass/fail
 - Can put prerequisites on pass/fail
 - Schools and colleges have additional limits
 - Special rules will still be in place and need to per Registrar's request
 - Freshman are not eligible if they have not achieved 26 credits

Renee – students are not aware of how they are doing prior to putting a class on pass/fail
Students were relieved to have the additional time to decide if they were to put the class on pass/fail

Students might not have enough clarity to decide – encourage them to talk about all options

Donna – concerns about first year students and the incomplete option

Last semester we didn't put caveats on putting classes on pass/fail because of the timing

Becky – Echoes Renee's sentiments – traditional timeline they would not have a sense of how they were doing when making the decision to put a class on pass/fail. She is hopeful students will have a sense of their grade by 12th week.

First year student issue – if the rule is relaxed to allow this population they

Students are struggling with the many different platforms being used for classes

Alexis – a great deal of chaos around the pass/fail is there some way to have a best practices worksheet if the proposal is approved

A conversation tool to help advisors and faculty to know about what to talk to the students about in terms of options to consider

Possibly a flow chart of options to consider - is it A or B options make it easy to follow when advising students

What is the best way to get information to instructors – Department heads to disseminate

Could this be more broadly tied to equity and inclusion and our commitment to these as an educational institution in terms of the first-year student element. Also which options lead to greater retention and student success

Becky – whatever happens in the fall, mirror the spring

Spring calendar discussion

- Why does the proposed calendar dates include Saturday and Sundays
- It is an awful long stretch of time
- Another motion to keep spring break at the 8th week and figuring out another quarantine option
- Risk to the campus is mitigated if there is not the movement
- Necessary to have compression but not sure how to balance it out
- How will quarantine periods impact the regional campuses – will this change modalities will change
- Modality issues impact international students and need to be reported to homeland security
- Last day to drop a class – will this move if the calendar change
- Some students may see week at
- Public health lens is that we are bringing students and retaining them for a longer period and limiting the back and forth
- Is there a way to change the curriculum for the 8th week to be a service learning lens

Business Items for 2020-2021 (identify members to work on information gathering)

- a) Quarantine experience for students (November) Tina McCarthy
- b) International first year students starting from abroad (November) Arthur Galinat
- c) BiPOC students in particular, and the current racial happenings to discuss the welfare of students (December)
- d) Holistic Wellbeing (January) – Kay Grudner
- e) Virtual wellness (January)

- f) Holds on student accounts (February) Work group- Jen Tibbets, Becky Bacher & Kelly Bartlett

- g) First Generation college students (March) – move sooner rather than later (January)
Renee Gilberti will reach out to David OUmimette and Leo Lachut
Work group – Renee Gilberti, Jen Morenus, Donna Korbel & Sheila Lafferty

- h) UConn Bookstore (April) – Sheila Lafferty

Invite Dr. Frank Tuitt to our December Meeting

Next Meeting – Thursday, November 5, 2020, 2:00-3:30pm