

Student Welfare Committee Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2021

In attendance: Kay Gruder, Peter Tribuzio, Chelsea Cichocki, Karen Bresciana, Colleen Spurling, Katherine McCarthy, Jennifer Tibetts, Bryanna Anderson, Peter Tribuzio, Arthur Galinat, Isaac Ortega, Michael Morrell, Renee Gilberti, Jen Morenus, Daniel Pfeiffer, Leo Lachet, Suzanne Peters, Sheila Lafferty, Kimberly Duby, Tina McCarthy, Lindsey Lemoine and Sandy Valentine

1. Introductions
2. Approve Minutes
 - a. September 2, 2021 minutes are approved
3. Guest - Leo Lachet, Assistant Director of First Year Programs & Learning Communities, Director of Academic Support
 - a. Gave a presentation on the Academic Achievement Center
 - b. Explained different academic experiences for each grade-level post online classes
 - c. Students feel a higher-level academic rigor after online classes
 - d. Flipped classroom
 - i. Students receive content outside of the classroom and come prepared to apply learned concepts
 - ii. Faculty are asking students to watch recorded lectures from the previous semester to prepare for class
 - iii. Students feel like they are doing extra work
 - e. Exams
 - i. Many students in their senior year of high school did not take traditional exams
 - ii. They need help preparing for exams
 - f. Class of 2022
 - i. Navigating campus like a first-year student and preparing to get a job or for graduate school and are experiencing stress and anxiety
 - g. First Gen Data
 - i. Concerned that 100 first gen students that showed 0.00 gpa
 - h. Discussion
 - i. Difficult for faculty to recognize student engagement with masks
 - ii. Students have forgotten how to socialize post online classes
 - iii. Low engagement and interactions among students
 - iv. It's been challenging for students to meet people
 - v. Students are looking for recorded lectures
 - vi. How many of the student activities/ clubs are active this semester compared to fall 2019?
 1. All clubs and organization are active
 - vii. Consider a mental health/wellness day and helping to facilitate that on campus

1. Makes students feel like the University cares about their well-being
 2. Consider how faculty will engage
 - a. Some faculty will probably want to be involved but others may not agree with this approach
 - b. Consider offering service credit to make it more palatable for some faculty
 - viii. Other options for providing students a break to lessen stress and anxiety
 1. Thanksgiving break is a week-long which could be shorten to give a few days off in October
 2. Labor Day is a day off for students only 2 weeks into the semester which may not be useful
4. Old Business
 - a. Provost and Future Learning Visit
 - i. They are interested in coming to speak to the committee in the Spring
 - b. Frank Tuitt and Christina Stevens will come in to speak in November and December meetings
 - c. Controlling Text Book Costs document
 - i. Colleen Spurling and Karen Bresciano will work on finalizing document
5. Work Group/Committee reports
 - a. First Generation Students
 - i. Received some data ORIE and looking for trends
 1. Finding out more about the demographics and how long it takes for student to graduate
 - ii. Plan for next meeting is to invite First Gen undergraduate and graduate students to share about their challenges and some things UConn can do to improve that would make their experience better
 1. Plan to reach out to student service staff at regional campus to include them in the conversation
 - b. Student with Families
 - i. Senate should have a place in raising issues, creating awareness and allocating resources
 - ii. Kay Gruder created a channel in Student Welfare team in MS Teams
6. New Business?
 - a. Little to no food options available at the Waterbury campus due to the removal of the Bookstore
 - b. Increase in bias incidents in regards to LGBTQ+ community
 - c. Supporting international students that are coming back to campus after being abroad for Freshman and Sophomore years
7. Next Meeting
 - a. November 4th