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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee Meeting, Tuesday, April 26, 2011

Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee

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Student Life Committee Meeting

April 26, 2011

Bib Lab, Olin Library

Members present: Randi Alberry, Bill Boles, Dan Chong, Alice Davidson, Drew Doty, Joni Eden, Karen Hater, Ashley Kistler, Tricia Lynch, Patricia Tome

Guests present: Angela Belcamino, Keith Buckley, Dan Crozier, Joan Davison, Susan Montgomery, Jennifer Queen, Pennie Parker, Brent Turner

Meeting was called to order at 12:36pm.

1. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Announcements
 - Dining Services will be changing the hours of the main dining hall to 5:30-8:30pm, to accommodate more student athletes and others. Plans for Dave's Down Under were discussed, including providing healthier meals later in the evening. Hater and Doty met with Sodexo today to discuss late-night healthy options. Sodexo will return with plans. Boles also discussed pricing problems, and Dining Services will explore options over the summer, including two-tiered fee system (e.g., \$2000 and \$2500). The possibility of a faculty member from SLC serving on Dining Services committee was discussed.
 - Turner: Student leadership awards went well.
3. Old Business: None.

New Business:

4. Report of athletics program, as required annually by the NCAA.
 - Future reports will also include the Chair of AAC.
 - Parker: There are 400 athletes in 22 sports, who are consistently competitive in Division II. We have a 93% graduation rate, which does not count transfers to other schools. Eighteen of our teams averaged above a 3.0 GPA. We operate by an NCAA manual that determines eligibility and other rules (e.g., limits on practice hours during the week).
 - Davison: My faculty role is "institutional integrity", ensuring that student-athletes are treated the same as other students in the amount of academic work, restrictions on payments, etc. Another role is student-athlete welfare, which comprises a large portion of my workload. This involves helping students access and understand scholarships, serving as a liaison between student and coach, ensuring that practice hours fit within NCAA guidelines, class attendance issues, etc. I also work with Crummer athletes, who tend to have a different set of academic problems, more with group work than with faculty attendance issues. Davison: I am concerned that the proposed attendance policy may not pass the faculty vote, so SLC may need to revisit next year, to at least allow students to make up exams for sessions that they have to miss for athletics. In NCAA tournaments, Rollins has no power over scheduling. One tennis player was not allowed to play in the NCAA tournament because the faculty member did not allow him/her to reschedule an exam. Buckley: It becomes very frustrating when a team makes the

NCAA tournament, but lose players because of class attendance problems. Davison: It is important for students to alert professors at the beginning of the semester about when they will be missing class. Queen: Faculty are frustrated by this as well, because they are sometimes asked to create an exam at the last minute. Faculty are also concerned about some coaches not adequately proctoring exams for their athletes. Davison: For NCAA tournaments, the team must be accompanied by an administrator who can help proctor exams. Parker: NCAA provides an auditing guidebook for athletics programs, which includes a standard scheduling form for when students will miss class. We can provide an administrator to proctor exams whenever necessary. Queen: What about students who may not know when they will have to miss class? Davison: It depends on the program. Some teams are able to be flexible with their schedule, and others aren't. Teams have always discussed whether it's better to schedule games on the same day of the week, so that athletes know not to take classes on those days, or to spread out the schedule throughout the week. Buckley: Scheduling practices is difficult with limited facilities, some of which are off campus, but the open 4-6pm window helps. It is especially difficult with science students, who sometimes have to miss practices for lab work, but coaches are willing to adjust. So scheduling conflicts sometimes can't be avoided. The large number of student athletes makes the strain on scheduling even greater. We would like to send more athletes to TJs for tutoring, but TJs often doesn't have the resources to accommodate everyone. Boles: Does Rollins need more tutoring help from TJs? Buckley: Not necessarily. When I ask TJs for help, they always provide it, even sometimes traveling with a team for a tournament. Parker: However, an academic advisor specifically for athletes would help.

- Davison: Our student-athletes don't have the special benefits that other D1 and D2 schools offer (tutors, separate housing, etc). However, on the other end, should we hold athletes to a higher behavioral standard than other students? Should social code violations result in an athletic sanction as well as a social or academic sanction? Boles: Honor code violation hearings don't discriminate between athletes and others. Belcamino: One problem is that we don't have the information in the system, when a violation is committed by an athlete, so we cannot pass that information along to Athletics. Davison/Buckley: Individual coaches have their own team rules, so if they are broken, the student will often get a double sanction.
- Parker distributed an Academic Pride report (see attachment). Many athletes do well academically, and some move on to graduate school. Buckley: Many are in the Crummer 3/2 program, and some go to Holt. Davison: A few female athletes go to counseling and MLS, and basketball and soccer players often do 3/2 MBA program, which helps with recruiting as well. Crummer faculty member: My athletes do very well in Crummer. Queen: We are impressed that a number of athletes are able to do study abroad as well.
- Parker: We offer 59 full scholarships among 400 athletes, so about 150 receive partial scholarships, which are packaged together with academic scholarships.
- Boles: One of the problems we've noticed is athletes' lack of participation in RCC and orientation activities. Buckley: This is getting better, as more coaches are requiring participation from their teams. Davison: NCAA recently changed their rules to allow only one week of preseason practices, which makes it more difficult for freshmen who have orientation and first-year requirements.

- Chong: Is Athletics doing anything to improve student attendance at athletic events?
Parker: The student-athlete committee discusses this issue often. Teams often try to support other teams, and they've created a Tar Cup award for team attendance at other teams' games. Davison: Soccer is fairly well attended, but we're always amazed how few people go to basketball games. Women's softball was very disappointing this year, with the #5 ranked team this year, but no students attend. Parker: We try to reach out to parents and youth leagues in the community. There is no PR person on staff, but Rollins PR department does list the event on the daily emails. [The group then discussed the fact that Rollins administration could provide better support for publicizing athletics events.]

5. SGA resolution for a new pub on campus.

- Kudos to Drew Doty for moving forward this resolution. Doty: This grew out of a desire to draw athletes and others to healthier late-night eating and drinking options. Ideas include beer, games, trivia nights. Queen: Probably the next step for this proposal is to get EC support and a faculty vote. How is this different from what already exists at Dave's Down Under? Doty: It includes aesthetic changes to be more welcoming, a lounge atmosphere that can compete with local bars, and better food options. Alberry: It also includes a space that could also be split up to use for banquets, fundraising events, etc. Boles: What has been administrators' response to the proposal? Doty: I met with President Duncan, and he would support a pilot project in Dave's. Hater: We have also been tasked (a committee including Joyner, Harte, Valiante, Doty, Hater, Turner, Miller, and McAlister) with reviewing the alcohol policy on campus to encourage safer behavior, which is a different process but related to a possible pub. Some of the process may take time, depending on consultations with Sodexo, cost considerations, etc.
- Queen recommended moving a clear proposal forward within an academic year, which would increase its chances of success. Queen/Boles: What power does the faculty have to approve the pub? Hater: Administrators would like campus-wide support for changing the alcohol policy or approving a pub. Queen/Boles: Faculty can at least pass a resolution of support, but cannot legislate on this. And faculty won't be able to meet to vote on any resolution until the fall semester.
- Davidson: Would underage students be able to eat at the pub? Hater: Yes, but not drink alcohol.
- Tome: Do students broadly support a pub? Turner: We think Sodexo has emailed students a survey about dining services that includes questions about a pub.
- Turner: Irrespective of the pub idea, we are already planning aesthetic changes to Dave's.
- Belcamino: Students should be clear that no changes have been made to the Code of Conduct, and a new pub would not affect the Code.
- SLC voted unanimously to support the SGA resolution for a new pub on campus.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50pm.



STUDENT-ATHLETE ACADEMIC PRIDE

- ✓ 18 consecutive semesters with cumulative team GPA over 3.0
- ✓ 27 student-athletes attained a 4.0 GPA during Fall 2010
- ✓ 3 student-athletes have been selected as valedictorians in the last 6 years
- ✓ 31 Academic All District recipients
- ✓ Women's tennis team led the nation with 7 ITA Scholar Athletes during the 2009-10 academic year
- ✓ 4 women's golf student-athletes were named National Golf Coaches Association All-American Scholars during the 2009-10 academic year
- ✓ 15 student-athletes participated in study abroad programs during Fall 2010
- ✓ 11 student-athletes participated in study abroad programs during Fall 2009
- ✓ 17 student-athletes are currently enrolled in graduate programs at Rollins
- ✓ 8 student-athletes were enrolled in graduate programs at Rollins during the 2009-10 academic year
- ✓ In the last 5 years, 32 student-athletes have graduated *cum laude*, 25 *magna cum laude*, and 11 *summa cum laude*
- ✓ Academic success rate for last cohort surveyed was 93%