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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee Meeting, Thursday, February 11, 2010

Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee

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Minutes  
Student Life Committee Meeting  
2/11/10 12:30-1:45 Olin Library Bib Lab

Members Present: Ashley Kistler, Derrick Paladino, Mahjabeen Rafiuddin, Cristina Figueroa, William Boles, Karen Hater

Guests: Diane Willingham, Leon Hayner, Brent Turner, Ken Miller, Meredith Hein, Angela Pacchainelli-Boshart, Jim Eck

I. Call to Order

II. Old Business

A. Boles held the Honor Code Drop-by hours on Tuesday…no one stopped by.

B. Progress on Learning Green: Cummings, Davis, and Winter Park Institute scholar Jacob Park met with Scott Bitikofer. Bitikofer suggested two locations he had pre-scouted: 1) location between Alumni House and Reeves Lodge and 2) lakeside behind McKean. The group visited the latter location and plan to test it out, as it is a naturally graded and shaded area. Cummings and Davis will teach there this semester to test the location. The committee discusses, however, whether or not this location will raise an issue with the counseling center, because of its proximity. Will it eliminate anonymity of students visiting the center? Miller states that this location is really buggy, and that people don’t play volleyball there as a result.

C. Figueroa gives an update on our ethnic/religious holiday policy. The research she has done on peer and aspirant schools reveals that they have a whole list of campus events including high holy days. She is working on draft of a similar list for us.

III. New Business:

A. Ken Miller clarifies the policy about entering and searching student rooms. Boles asks him to describe a typical incident. Hayner states that if an RA or staff felt that policy was violated, they would knock on the door and explain why there, ask if they can enter room, and look around. If they see alcohol, collect it, bring to center of room, and all the alcohol is poured out by the students
themselves. They don’t search for more. Miller adds that the problem is when students hide the alcohol. Then the RA or the campus safety officer and the students must have a conversation about getting the stuff, and finding the alcohol can be contentious. Hater states that campus safety officers are there to observe and report, not to advise students on what to do. Miller states that his office sometimes questions officers when there is a dispute about their procedure. Boles asks where the line is between advising and reporting. Miller states that he personally tells students tell the truth about what they did to achieve a better outcome. Officers document whether students are cooperative or not cooperative. Miller states that officers do not advise students to be responsible or not responsible on the accounts with which they are charged, he simply advises them to be cooperative. Boles states that security now does rounds in dorms and asks if this is a new policy? Is it a national trend? Or this just done at Rollins? How do students feel about it? Miller responds that campus security only patrols the halls and non-student rooms, since they are common areas and not the students home. Campus security does rounds to help keep those areas safe and is not trying to create the culture on campus. They are simply following orders. The expectations for security rounds under previous Deans of Student Affairs were not consistent. Now, however, they are, and so campus safety is the forms. Most people don’t care what campus safety does, except for Ruth Jackson who makes them brownies. Campus security started making lunch for students in the campus safety office, student organizations come down there and they get to know each other. Only one student organization blew them off and didn’t show up, so now they won’t be invited back. Hayner states that we don’t have 24 hour front desks in the dorms, like at other schools, which provides a sense of safety. Campus safety and the Residential Life staff should be in halls together as much as possible so that students are familiar with them. Miller states that most calls to campus safety are for service calls. They only have about 300 incident reports a year, while they have 900 service calls a month. Residential Life writes up more incidents than campus safety. No one is trying to be Big Brother, but we have to realize that Rollins is totally different at night, and it’s hard to manage for students after they have had several drinks. Hayner suggests that faculty do ride-alongs and walk through the dorms at midnight to see what it’s like. Figueroa asks if it is it fair to students to have campus security in the residence halls at that time. A lot of students see their presence as a violation of their rights, since people are waiting for them to come home so that they can write them up. Students feel like people are out to get them. Miller replies that there are just as many people who don’t like to pay collective residence hall charges at the end of the year when they have to pay for the damage to buildings and outside, when they weren’t involved. RAs and campus security is not present to watch students,
but they have to watch out for them. If you choose to make bad choices, then
have to pay the consequences. Figueroa asks if they can put cameras outside the
buildings, so that campus security wouldn’t need to be present. Miller states that
got estimates for the cost of the cameras, but the cost was not approved.
Willingham states that cameras will not solve the problem or substitute for staff
intervention in inappropriate behavior. We can’t let that behavior pass because 1) it’s illegal and 2) it has a huge negative impact on the campus community.
Paladino talks about his experience as a trauma team at the University of Florida.
He states that students need to consider that 1. Underage drinking is illegal,
shouldn’t do it and 2. He has attended many different violent or traumatic
crimes, like suicide, rape, etc where he realized that campus safety helps prevent
these things from happening.

B. We discuss the relationship between Holt and Arts and Sciences: We are
interested to try to find out how this relationship is perceived, since there is a
movement it seems to blend Holt and day students. Boles asks Eck what the
divide is, when we seem to be merging the programs on so many levels? Where
are we merged already? Where do we still have room? Maybe we need Holt
representation on the SLC. Eck states that Holt and A & S are merging some
academic depts., where there is a large overlap in the curriculums. They are
following airplane pricing models, and no two people are saying the same price in
any given class. It’s not that much different. Jim Eck states that one of the
arguments since he’s been at Rollins used to justify the tuition differential is that
Holt students don’t have access to all the services Rollins has. They have similar
access to TJs and the library, and to specific people in tutoring or writing center as
Holt students. They also have to go through AAC and PSC for courses and other
academic issues. They have adopted the Arts and Sciences Honor Code, though
they have their own peer honor council. There is no difference in terms of the
written policy. There are many points of integration. Eck wants to get a sense
from us if Holt begins to take significantly from A and S resources, then Holt
needs to be aware of it. The major difference between the two programs is
money…Another difference is that Holt students stay in Florida after graduation
and give their money to Florida, whereas most of our students spend money here
for a few years, and then leave, and go back to their home states. The sustainable
economic impact of Rollins comes from Holt and Crummer. Rafiuudin has been
here a year and a half now, she appreciates opportunity to work with Holt, since
Holt students add so much to our learning outcomes and culture. Diversity of
Holt students adds so much to our day students’ learning, so she views the two
programs as an exchange and a form of two way learning. She states that we have
21% ethnic minority rate as a college, and Holt has 33%. We also have diversity
of thought, Holt students can add to this conversation. Boles states that when he first started, there were Holt faculty and an A and S student body. Now it’s merged, and shouldn’t Holt students should be part of A and S student body? Why do we have two separate systems from Holt students and day students? There shouldn’t be two separate Honor Codes, there should be only one Honor system and one honor council. When Holt students violate college policy, they don’t go through the Community Standard’s office, they go through a separate system, which seems unfair, especially when they go on the same trips. Willingham states that A and S students’ problems impact our campus and happen in our community, whereas older Holt students who live farther are not in our realm. We have younger Holt students who interact with our day students, and when they commit the same violation, it’s challenging, because there is a policy for day and a separate policy for night students. Eck states that in Holt, there have only been 5 students since April that they have had to give sanctions to. This is not very many. There isn’t a different social responsibility standard for Holt than for the day students. Community Standards in Holt tries to figure out what A and S would do and give the same sanction for the Holt students. Willingham states that the biggest discrepancies occur when they commit violations together, then we have to figure it out to make the sanctions the same. Hater states that she has served on the appeals committee for 10 years. One thing that has caused this committee difficulty is when there are Arts and Sciences students in a Holt class, and they want to withdraw, the policy for Holt withdraw is different from ours. It’s hard to reconcile which policy applies. Eck states that they are currently trying to integrate Holt and A and S calendar. Now trying to integrate Student Records, withdraw policies, dates, advising, etc. Student advising in the Holt school is done by professional advisors, not faculty, and some integration of these advisors might be a good long term sustainable model.

IV. Meeting adjourned at 1:50.