

10-7-2008

Minutes, Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee Meeting, Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_sl

Recommended Citation

Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee, "Minutes, Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee Meeting, Tuesday, October 7, 2008" (2008). *Student Life Committee Minutes*. Paper 58.
http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_sl/58

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the College of Arts and Sciences Minutes and Reports at Rollins Scholarship Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in Student Life Committee Minutes by an authorized administrator of Rollins Scholarship Online. For more information, please contact wzhang@rollins.edu.

Student Life Committee for the Arts and Sciences

Minutes for October 7, 2008

Bush Science Center #257

Start 12:32 – Finish 1:51 pm

Present: Paul Harris (Chair), Alex Brown, Jimmy Colston, Denise Cummings, Creston Davis, Taylor Finkelson, Nick Horsmon, Micki Meyer, Ken Miller, Derrick Paladino, Jennifer Queen, Katie Sutherland

Guests: Marissa Germain, SGA President (proxy for Drew Horsborg), Andy Hughes, Director, Student Involvement and Leadership and Diane Willingham, Director, Community Standards and Responsibility

I. Introductions

- a. P. Harris welcomed committee and guests. Expressed gratitude for the number of students present on the committee. Informed committee that agenda items would not be addressed in order due to timing of student affairs reports given later in the meeting.

II. Announcements

- a. P. Harris asked for committee introductions.
- b. P. Harris reports uncertainly in the timeline of the Dean of Student Affairs Search and EC will be addressing the search and possible next steps on 10/9.

III. Old Business

A. SGA Update- Student Accountability Act and Student Bill of Rights Discussion

- a. See Attachment A.1, A.2
- b. J. Colston reported number of participants involved in drafting the Student Accountability Act and Bill of Rights which includes 5 SGA, 5-Non SGA, and representatives from Panhellenic, IFC and Peer Mentor Program.
- c. M. Germain presented background and working draft of the documents explaining that students are interested in taking responsibility for their actions and can not ask for rights without taking responsibility for behaviors and actions. Used models from codes from University of Virginia and Elon to inform process and language.
- d. Discussion: M. Germain expressed interest in SLC involvement and feedback on documents. C. Davis positively supported plan and

encouraged student organizers to define and enhance language of “community” and to neutralize “big brother” language in documents. M. Germain agreed. P. Harris provided support to documents encouraging framing of responsibilities and offered guidance and feedback from SLC throughout the process before going to the full faculty. Also expressed interest for documents to be distributed to SLC so group can take more time to read and discuss feedback.

- e. Next step: M. Germain and Student SLC reps will provide updates and reports as document progresses

B. Faculty Involvement in the Co-Curriculum Survey

- a. P. Harris and J. Queen report that analysis is still in process of data collected from survey; expressed difficulty in timing because of curriculum pilot. Discussion will be introduced at a later SLC meeting.

C. Report on actions taken in relation to the recommendations from ATO Strategic Plan Assessment Committee

- a. History: Invitation extended to D. Willingham and A. Hughes to provide updates on progress on judicial procedures designed for residential organizations
- b. D. Willingham presented Fraternity and Sorority Hearing Council and Code of Community Standards and explained process for selecting and training organizations. Training involves group accountability and expectations for actions. Noted that research indicates that many colleges are moving away from group responsibility.
- c. See Attachment B.1
- d. Discussion: P. Harris asked if all residential organizations go through process (ie: Roc and Pinehurst). D. Willingham indicated that this is not the case as of now but is the plan down the road. P. Harris expressed a potential residential shift with the new curriculum in living-learning groups and urged DOSA to look into this.
- e. A. Hughes introduced the Community Commitments document that holds Fraternity and Sororities to a series of commitments that model the LEAP Outcomes and puts learning at the center of experience. Organizations must document areas of involvement in each commitment and provide strategic plans by mid October. Organizations will be evaluated by the Guiding Coalition Committee comprised of faculty and staff each year based on progress in each area. Progress is tied to organizational benefits including budget and housing on campus.
- f. See Attachments C.1-C.3
- g. Discussion: P. Harris encouraged parts of the plan but expressed concern for lack of accountability if negative decisions and actions are taken by the group. Expressed interest of faculty in concern around negative actions and behaviors and how these are specifically measured and addressed in

the plan (similar to the ATO Recommendation Document). A. Hughes reported that these issues are addressed in the plan and also through standards boards, Fraternity and Sorority Hearing Council. P. Harris reiterated a measurable standard to be reflected in the Community Commitments to address negative decisions and actions are taken by the group that includes consequences. M. Germain explained that organization standards boards are working boards that hold students to the values of the organization and college. P. Harris commented that the faculty perception of Greek Life per the Faculty Involvement Co-Curriculum Survey is that students are involved in things related to poor decision making and alcohol consumption and many faculty do not want to advise Greek organizations. J. Queen suggested that faculty don't always understand how Greek organizations operate and function since many faculty were not involved in Greek Life as students. Standards need to be clearly articulated (this is what it takes to get an "A" this is what it takes to get an "F"). P. Harris identified that many organizations are doing a great job but faculty identify the short falls. A. Hughes commented that this (document) could be the culture shift as a great step of high expectations from both the chapter and college. P. Harris encouraged that standards be set for all residential organizations. A. Hughes agreed and Residential Life needs to be involved in that discussion and if that direction is taken. M. Germain commented that the Student Responsibilities Act could also get to this and expressed concern over the amount inconsistencies students face on campus who are involved in multiple roles when dealing with standards (rules for RAs, Peer Mentors, Greek organizations, etc). K. Miller comment that there is nothing wrong for saying "You are a student" this is our code to live and act by. All students should be held to the same standard. D. Willingham expressed that the current systems are not set up this way (ie: Sorority National Standards do not allow women to drink in the house even if they are 21 years of age). K. Miller commented that with each extra position held there is extra responsibility. M. Germain agreed and expressed that the pressure is getting too intense for students in multiple roles on campus with layers of standards and no ability for students to be "students" and make mistakes. Students are in fear of being fired from roles. Expressed hope that the Student Bill of Rights will address some of these issues. P. Harris said that we need to create healthy environments for students and support organizations that are doing this.

IV. New Business

A. M. Meyer requested for SLC to continue to actively discuss and partner in this process with DOSA (Community Commitments and student advising) and continue dialogue at the November SLC meeting.

V. Adjournment