

Minutes 2/11/14

Student Affairs and Campus Life Advisory Committee

In Attendance: Suzanne Houff, Robert Rycroft, Anand Rao, Jon McMillan

Guests: Colin Coleman, Margot Jebb, Bethany Friesner

The Committee first discussed a change in focus from developing a preliminary report on Living Learning Communities to advising Student Affairs and Residence Life on applications for new LLC's, and working to develop assessment strategies for LLC's. The group agreed to generate ideas for the March meeting.

Margot informed the group that a national assessment model exists for LLC's. This model is under consideration for purchase by the University but no decisions have been made.

Anand suggested linking the assessment of Freshmen Seminars currently being developed as part of the QEP since most LLC's link to these courses.

Colin and Margot are working on a committee trip to the University of Richmond to investigate their LLC's. Currently, the 21st and 28th of March are tentative dates for the trip.

Bethany Friesner (Associate Director of Residence Life) briefed the committee on the status of LLC applications for the 2014-15 academic year:

- There were nine proposals submitted in total
- All four existing LLC's have applied to continue next year: Greenhouse, Empower U, Justice For All and Pre- Business
- The Justice for All LLC has proposed increasing their enrollment to 60 students with four sections of the same Freshman Seminar taught by three faculty members. Each section's students (15 max) will live in the same hall.

- New Proposals with committee comments:

1. Documenting Life- 15 students, Documentary Film FSEM, good use of Convergence center facilities
2. Genocide and Human Rights- 15 students, Genocide FSEM, some questioned the choice of title for this LLC
3. SOAR (Service, Outreach and Activism Residents)- 20 students from 80 student course may present registration difficulties
4. Mindfulness- 15 students, currently linked course is a Topics course that will change to an FSEM pending approval of the course
5. TEACH (Tomorrow's Educators and Community Housing)- originally for upper level students, this proposal is being resubmitted to link to an FSEM and focus on first year students instead

The eventual goal (as determined by V.P. Searcy) is to have 300 students enrolled in LLC's. The committee briefly discussed the viability of that goal, given that most

LLC's are linked to FSEM courses with enrollment limited to 15 students. Currently, course enrollment is linked to LLC enrollment as designated by students on a questionnaire they complete prior to registering for classes. Several members of the committee mentioned that this model could become problematic in LLC's linked to courses with enrollment greater than the LLC enrollment (e.g. a 20 student LLC that is enrolled in an 80 student course).

Anand wondered if faculty would have the ability to screen students prior to their enrollment to control the experience level of students for specific LLC/FSEM combinations. One idea involved prospective LLC members applying for enrollment in some way. Bethany responded that in the current process, students self select for LLC enrollment.

At the end of the meeting, Colin brought up the idea of a Faculty in Residence program in which Faculty members live in University housing. The position announcement is being forwarded to members of the committee for comment before the position is posted. Currently, Residence Life plans to recruit its first FIR for the Fall 2014 semester.