

Student Affairs and Campus Life Committee Regular Meeting

Date: Friday, December 2, 2016

Location: Combs Hall 348

Committee members in attendance: Kate Haffey (Chair), Ping Yin (Secretary), Kashef Majid, Antonio Causurano, Jason James

Meeting called to order at 4:03 pm

- The committee discussed the committee's role.
 - Kate reviewed the committee's major work last year, including giving feedback for a website developed by the Talley Center for assessing students' mental health, and providing suggestions regarding the position of the faculty-in-residence.
 - Kate went over the description of the committee in the faculty handbook, and emphasized that the committee should work in an advisory fashion with the Vice President for Student Affairs.
 - Kate raised a question about whether the committee needs to have two non-voting student members as stated in the faculty handbook. The committee agreed that student members could be valuable but difficult to find due to various reasons.
- The committee discussed the issue brought by the Vice President Juliette Landphair regarding how faculty handles the class absences of student athletes.
 - Currently there is no university policy regarding class absence and the committee discussed the possibility and difficulty in creating such kind of policy.
 - The committee agreed that instructors should clearly communicate with students about the course policy on class absence through their syllabi.
 - The committee agreed that the propositions from the administration of Athletics (e.g., Lynne Richardson and Ken Tyler) and VP Landphair could be helpful for the future work of the committee on this issue. Meeting with them will be put on the agenda for next semester.
- The committee discussed the problem Kate brought up about how the names of transgender students are listed on rosters, which may put those students in a high-risk situation.
 - Kate introduced how other universities handle this issue, such as allowing students put their preferred names in the systems.
 - Kate told the committee that she has brought up this issue to VP Landphair and was suggested to contact the relevant people of the computer systems.
- The committee agreed to schedule 1-2 meetings early next spring semester to meet with the administration of Athletics and VP Landphair regarding the course absences of student athletes.

Meeting adjourned at 4: 55pm