**Student Affairs and Campus Life Advisory Committee Minutes**

Meeting time, place and date:

Wednesday, 14th September,4:00pm

Committee members present:

* Veena Ravishankar (Chair)
* Ginny Morriss (Secretary)
* Cate Brewer
* Juliette Landphair (ex-officio member)

Introductions

Dr. Melissa Jones, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, Dean of Students

Dr. Chris (C.J.) Porter, Assistant Dean of Students

Items of Business, including Motions

* Introduction to reorganization of Student Affairs offices since the retirement of Dean Rucker and provide perspective to committee to understand how the student affairs office works and how faculty can contribute.
  + Committee valuable to provide the office with advice and perspective on student affairs.
  + Out of class experience to support academic experience
  + Want our students to achieve their academic goals
  + Things that happen outside of the classroom
* How transitions in Student Affairs Division were made
  + Some things look different in student behavioral intervention and student supports put into place.
  + Behavioral intervention added
    - Weekly meetings of behavioral intervention team
    - Monday – New student coordinated care meeting to gain birds-eye-view of students who may be struggling or in distress (i.e. not turning in assignments or coming to class). They learn about these students from FSEM instructor or Ras
      * This hopefully allows office to be more preventative, rather than only reactive
      * Process is in line with what universities around the country do, not only looking in one dimension, but getting an holistic picture of what is going on for the student
    - If need for support rises, can get bumped to behavioral intervention. These are students of concern who need immediate interventions.
    - If absolutely necessary and concern is seen as threat, moves to Threat assessment, overseen by Chief of Police.
  + After many listening sessions, it became clear to the office that ability to follow up with faculty was desired. Structurally, the division added a non-clinical manager who is able to manage and report case tracking. Betsy Southern is able to support the organization. The non-clinical case manager helps do this quickly and clearly, following interventions. Makes sure faculty feel that they have resources to help students.
  + Explanation of Maxient reporting system.
    - Have already been having meetings to support student success before the semester began and already dealing with students in crisis as early as the first week of classes.
      * Students asked if any information can be shared with the professor. If student declines, faculty is told that the student is support.
* Open for discussion
  + Discussion of the historic role of the committee. To provide perspective to the Student Affairs office, since faculty are interacting with students, we can provide input on performance, mental health, or concerns.
  + Is 24-hour counseling service for students part of the new services?
    - If students feel in distress after hours, can call and speak with a clinician.
    - Protocol will assess student and a clinician will contact the university police if immediate assistance is necessary. Counseling will get a report at the beginning of every morning.
    - Students can get help without police intervention. Service has already been used. Feedback received from parent who was grateful the system was available.
  + Shared experiences of students adapting to new situations as we return to “normalcy.”
    - Students seem to be happier to be back in person, compared to during pandemic
    - More engagement and interaction with classmates
    - Freshmen (in one FSEM) seem to be in better place than previous semester
    - Starting to see some anxiety as students are becoming overwhelmed
    - Student affairs already talking to students and encouraging them to talk to their faculty instead of falling further behind.
  + When would be the time to contact Student Affairs?
    - Earlier in the semester is better to help student on track, not wait until the end of the semester.
    - If start noticing patterns, doesn’t have to be a mental health issue, follow up with the students.
    - Some students may not understand the nuances of student life. Some farther behind than others, due to the pandemic.
    - Provide some grace for students who do not know how things work normally.
    - Sometimes, etiquette of being in classrooms did not make it throught he pandemic. Need to be mindful of this when working with students.
  + What can faculty do to help with this?
    - If student’s behavior has shifted, even a little bit, that faculty considers troubling, pull student to side and acknowledge change and let them know that faculty can help the student find the supports they need.
  + What sort of feedback can committee provide to student affairs?
    - Spread awareness about the reports and that Maxient report should be filled out, if there is something to report. The student will not get into trouble, but the office would like to start helping/supporting students as soon as possible.
    - Recognize patterns that are curious or of concern, whether individual or collective patterns. Provide this perspective since staff see students in different spaces. Meet students where they are.
      * Examples: What do the students need for support? Are larger scale interventions necessary? What is going on around midterm?
    - Student affairs takes documentation seriously. Want to support students and facilitate students to get them back on track.
      * Student affairs does not want to discourage faculty from contacting the office if there are questions. If faculty does not know what to do with the students, can call, but the office will ask that a form be filled out to document the concern.
* Thanks to Melissa and CJ.
* Committee tasks
  + Appoint non-voting student members. Committee members will contact Veena if have suggestions. Students typically attend our meetings and provide feedback on campus climate.
  + Decide on guest for next meeting
    - Director of Compliance - Title IX

Adjournment and next meeting details

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Next meeting time, October 12, 4 pm.