

## **College Faculty Council – Student Affairs Subcommittee (UFC Student Affairs & Campus Life Advisory Committee)**

Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2025

### **Committee Members and Student Representatives Present**

- Ashe Laughlin (Chair; Assistant Professor of Painting & Drawing)
- Melissa Jones (Dean of Students / Associate VP for Student Affairs, ex officio)
- Mike Walsh (Vice President for Student Affairs, ex officio)
- Randall Reif (Associate Professor, Chemistry & Physics)
- Sushma Subramanian (Associate Professor, Communication & Digital Studies)
- Antonia Delgado-Poust (Associate Professor, Modern Languages & Literatures; Co-Secretary)
- Maya Schram (Conservation Biology and Environmental Science; student representative)
- Mackenzie Martin (Studio Art; student representative)

### **Announcements**

- Two additional meetings are scheduled for the semester, to take place in February and March.
- Juliette Landphair (Assistant Vice President of Health and Wellness) and Chad Sims (Director of the Talley Center) will attend the February meeting to discuss their new roles and relevant student-support initiatives.
- Ashe Laughlin, Randall Reif, and Sushma Subramanian will rotate off the committee at the end of the semester. A new chair will need to be identified from among continuing members.
- Recent Faculty Handbook language was passed.

### **New Business**

#### Purpose of the January Meeting

- The January 2026 meeting functioned primarily as a brainstorming and planning session, with an emphasis on identifying long-term priorities for the committee.

### **Strategic Action Plan – Priority 3 (Student Life & Affairs)**

- The committee focused much of its discussion on the Strategic Action Plan, particularly Priority 3, which members felt most closely aligns with the committee's charge.
- Members agreed that the SACL committee has a responsibility to:
  - Provide detailed and concrete feedback on Priority 3.
  - Potentially assist with implementation of aspects of this priority.
- Mike Walsh emphasized the value of faculty insight in identifying what may be missing, underdeveloped, or in need of amplification within the plan.

- Members noted that previous discussions (e.g., supporting students with ODR accommodations in the classroom) do not appear explicitly in the current version of the plan.
- There was concern that, if student input is desired, the Strategic Action Plan should be more accessible to students and communicated in clearer or more varied ways.
- The committee acknowledged that, per a recent email from Amy Jessee (January 14), there is now a mechanism for anonymous feedback on the plan.

#### **Next steps:**

- For the February meeting, **members will propose 2–3 focused questions or points related to Priority 3.**
- **Voting members are asked to send ideas, questions, or suggestions to Ashe Laughlin a week before February 9 (our next meeting date).**
- These ideas will be discussed collectively and then elevated to the UFC as appropriate.
- The committee agreed that it is important to ask students directly what they would like to see reflected in Priority 3 and to incorporate that feedback into committee recommendations.

#### **Student Deaths and Campus Response**

- The committee discussed the recent passing of two Studio Art students.
- Existing protocols were reviewed:
  - The Registrar is notified first.
  - Student Affairs leadership (Mike Walsh's and Jeff's offices) coordinate next steps.
  - Melissa Jones serves as the family liaison.
  - Amy Jessee manages campus-wide communication, following the family's wishes.
- Members noted that posthumous degrees may be awarded in some cases, depending on a student's progress toward degree completion.

#### **Student Mental Health and Support Resources**

- The committee discussed ongoing and significant mental health challenges among students.
- Both Coordinated Care and the Talley Center are actively working to support students and collaborate with faculty and staff.
- Available resources include TimelyCare and services through the Talley Center, which are available to the broader campus community, not only students.

#### **Upcoming Business**

- Discussion of new committee leadership for the 2026–2027 academic year will take place at a future meeting.
- Antonia Delgado-Poust will circulate edited minutes from the November meeting for approval via email.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.