

Student Affairs Committee

4/14/10 Darwin 101

Present: D. Girman , M. Lopez-Phillips, J. Mahdavi, L. Vega, K. Thompson, D. Romesburg, R. Lopez, P. Ramey,

Absent: Library vacant

Proxies: None

Guests: L. Holmstrom-Vega, L. Wyatt

Agenda: Approved

Minutes: Approved

Reports

Short reports due to full agenda.

Chair's Report (D. Girman): Resolution of no-confidence will be taken up as first reading at this week's senate meeting.

- Second reading on forming of Senate Diversity Committees—but first need bylaws allowing formation of direct senate subcommittee.
- GE reform of Arts and Humanities—controversial. EPC approved, but Senate has concerns about broader issues.

Advising Report (R. Lopez): Holds for super seniors (needs a plan in place).

- Advising banner is up on PeopleSoft, on-campus email sent, banner reminding people to get advising, STAR published editorial.
- Maybe 124 should be the number of units to trigger holds as many majors require 124 rather than 120

Business

1. Review SAC meeting schedule for 2010-11: approve dates as presented.
2. Review student graduation issue: EOP student who was forced to graduate with 120 units (need 124 for physics; was one class away from math minor). Girman suggests we stay aware of issues like this—not that we take action. Mahdavi suggests that these issues be referred back to appropriate academic advisor rather than to senate committees.
3. Return of Grade Appeal Policy and Son of Student Grievance Policy (L. Holmstrom): talked to university counsel. He didn't think it was a policy issue, but a routing one. Lopez-Phillips supports the idea of a more general policy combined with best judgment of faculty and staff to interpret the policy. Withdraw our policy changes. Girman will work with Holmstrom to review grievance language in Student Rights Repsonsibility. SAC members will review total Students Rights and Responsibilities.
4. Review of Class Attendance Policy: Sentences of concern—"When students are absent from classes, it is their responsibility to inform the instructor of the reason for the absence and to arrange to make up missed assignments and class work. Students should be cautioned that

even though absences may be for valid reasons, such absences can impair performance and result in a lower grade.”

- Does this require faculty to give students make-up work if student has been attending an officially approved university activity?
- This especially affects student athletes.
- Academic Freedom Subcommittee will also take this issue up as the faculty member claims this is academic freedom.
- Thompson moves that we work on this language on a future agenda. Lopez seconds motion after some discussion. Motion approved unanimously.
 - Discussion: do we need to have someone come to talk to us about the issue before we move forward? Lopez-Phillips says we can move forward to draft some language
 - What are faculty obligations to provide make-up work? (Girman will research)
 - What are NCAA guidelines? (Lopez-Phillips will research)

5. Memo to VP of SAEM regarding Victim’s Advocate position (L. Wyatt):

- CAPS seeing increasing numbers of students with greater pathology.
- Very understaffed in CAPS—have a waiting list. Troubling that students in need must wait a long time to get help.
- Envisions Victim’s Advocate as first line contact for student who has been sexually assaulted, stalked, harassed, victim of domestic violence —give triage and refer them out to appropriate services (including UASA- United Against Sexual Assault). Would like to combine this position as Victim Advocate, case manager, counselor.
- Lopez-Phillips: what about continuing care? This will become a full time job once it begins.
- Wyatt working with UASA to form groups on campus for therapy
- Girman reminds that this position is needed due to issues related to diversity/discrimination as well as sexual assault. Wyatt would want to avoid these cases as they relate to faculty and legal issues. Girman wants a person who can help a student decide whether to take a case forward. Wyatt says faculty can/should refer students who are victims of discrimination to counseling center.
- If we were to hire such a person, Wyatt would want them to do visible, do programming, get the word out that the resource is available.
- Need a memo that reinforces that a new counselor hired could be the victim’s advocate—should be a 12 month appointment.
- Girman will forward a draft memo around for SAC/Wyatt to review

6. Report from Academic Advising Subcommittee on Registration Hold Procedure (R. Lopez).

- Workload issue
- There’s a policy, but no plan—Girman suggest each department would develop such a plan.
- Who removes advising holds?
- Lopez-Phillips suggest we wait until furloughs are over to institute such a plan
- Current proposal: first year, change major, when first transferring (this is a minimum level of advising)