

STUDENT AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES

November 4, 2010

Present: Dan Burcham, Mike Cairns, Matt Chaney, Sara Dew, Kathy Lake, Kristin Norton, Angie Roman, Kristen Salomonson, Mark Schuelke, Paul Sullivan, Linda Telfer, Troy Tissue, Cindi VanderSloot (for Cindy Horn), and Alli Witucki.

Absent: Cindy Horn and Leroy Wright.

Guest: Ken Plas.

Controversial Student Organization

Mike Cairns explained that another university had a Sex Club formed for educational purposes but also they also watched porn films. He questioned what Ferris would do if this happened. Ken explained that this issue is both straight-forward and complicated. He indicated that public universities cannot bar freedom of expression from the campus. Ken explained that once a university has designated places on campus to have open forums, i.e., Quad, than you have to allow all groups to come to campus. The university could bar a group coming to campus if they impinge on other people. Ken indicated that we are a public university, and uncomfortable speech and dialogue is acceptable. It can be regulated if it is consistent.

Discussion followed on the Strip-Tease Class that was being taught and that various people on campus had an issue with that. Ken explained that since it was offered by Ferris and the person teaching this class was paid by Ferris, the university can name it anything that they want. Academic freedom does not go to the level of naming the class.

Dan noted that there are some words in our Student Code of Conduct that probably could be challenged. It was also noted that our Core Values might be challenged as well.

Mark Schuelke questioned if we allow these controversial groups to come to campus, are we responsible to protect them?

Death of a Student/Injured Student Protocol

Dan Burcham explained that Student Affairs is not always aware of a death of a student or a serious injury of a student. If Mike Cairns or Dan Burcham is involved, they tend to sit with the family. It was noted that various people have notified the family. Dan questioned if it is necessary that someone from Ferris attends the funeral.

The council agreed that a meeting should be held to discuss this further.

Amway Contact

Angie Roman explained that Don Green had contacted her regarding a conversation that he had with Amway personnel. Amway had indicated that Ferris students are not getting internships because they are not as well prepared. Amway offered to provide workshops in how to be competitive in today's market.

Angie indicated that she spoke to Amway at the Job Fair, and they indicated to her that Ferris students look really good and she indicated that some students that come are freshmen; therefore, that is why they are wearing jeans.

Dan asked Angie to send him a note concerning this.

HLC Update/Mission Statements

Mike Cairns distributed a HLC handout that was created by Sandy Balkema's students. He also thanked everyone for linking their mission statement to the Student Affairs website. Kristen Salomonson noted that Ferris' graphic standards were not used on the HLC handout.

Mike Cairns announced that five people had entered videos for the video competition and judging will begin in the near future.

First Generation Student Webinar

Mark Schuelke indicated that Jeff Davis gave a webinar on the first generation student. He indicated that these students do not see college as valuable but it was suggested that special information sessions for both students and parents be conducted to guide them through the processes. It was suggested that this could be done at either orientation, a Dawg Day, or having a FSUS class for first generation students. It was noted that these students are in survivor mode rather than the college experience mode.

OrgSync

Alli Witucki reported that OrgSync has 7,453 users. She also indicated that a users survey was distributed and 552 have responded. Dan Burcham indicated that he did not speak about OrgSync at Academic Senate as they ran out of time but will be speaking at the December meeting.

Announcements

Mike Cairns distributed a document from Mike Boulus from the Presidents' Council concerning community colleges offering four-year degrees. Dan indicated that if they are allowed to do this, they would be offering those degrees much cheaper than the state universities. He indicated, however, that students still want the campus experience which they do not get at a community college.

Kristen Salomonson reported that we are up 400 applications and up 75 offers from last year. All available Admission Recruiters will be working on decisions this week. Kristen also indicated that there was a FERPA violation reported at the Grand Rapids Pharmacy program which she has been dealing with. FYI – the computer registration problem experienced this week was not the fault of Student Affairs.

Sara Dew reported that the scholarship letters went out last week and will continue going out every Tuesday for next Fall's students.

Cindi VanderSloot indicated that the candidates for the Coordinator position have been interviewed and a recommendation will be forthcoming.

Troy Tissue indicated that the Veterans' Breakfast will be held on November 11. The next Dawg Day will be held on November 13 and will be a general Dawg Day. The Hometown Recruiter initiative will be modified this year and will be conducted over the holiday break.

Mark Schuelke announced that progress is being made on the renovation of Rankin Center with envisioning being done this year, planning next year, and building in two years. Mark also noted that EU and Student Government are meeting once a month to see how they can collaborate on different events.

Matt Chaney indicated that November is Native American Month with The Canadian Collection on display November 9-November 11 in the IRC corridor; a guest speaker, Aaron Payment, on November 9th at 6:00 p.m. in BUS 111; and a dream catcher workshop on November 23 from 11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Rankin Student Center Lobby.

Paul Sullivan noted that the Health Center is administering flu shots with vaccine still available. The Counseling Center remains busy even though they have reduced the cap on the number of sessions per student. He explained that their statistics are where they usually are at the end of the semester.

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Alli Witucki distributed “Things To Do @ FSU” and announced the following upcoming events:

November 9, 7:00 p.m. – Baby Wants Candy Improv Play – Williams

November 18 – 7:00 p.m. – Marc Elliot – What Makes You Tic? (5-star speaker)
Williams

November 6 and 11 – 5:30 p.m.- Vagina Monologues informational meetings

November 11 – 7:00 p.m. – Autumn Alive – Joe Nichols – tickets still available

November 9 – Biggby Fundraiser for United Way – 6 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

November 29 – Buffalo Wild Wings United Way Fundraiser – 20% going to UW.

Angie Roman reported that 110 employers attended the Job Fair which is an increase of 45 from last year. A total of 912 students and faculty attended the Job Fair which is an increase of 200 and 32 students were interviewed Thursday or Friday. Angie also reported that she saw an increase of 50 people for the networking reception and a lot of alums returning to Ferris to recruit. It was suggested that she distribute a thank you on university-wide notices and give some statistics. Angie also thanked Carrie Adams for all her assistance in setting up these events. Next week will be a critical thinking workshop which has previously had great attendance.

Dan Burcham explained that the General Education Task Force is looking at the language of outcomes. We need to tie this initiative to OrgSync and co-curricular transcript. Dan also announced that he would be gone for a few days and that if anything came up to please let Mike Cairns and Linda Telfer know.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Telfer