

STUDENT AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES

October 20, 2011

Present: Dan Burcham, Mike Cairns, Sara Dew, Cindy Horn, Kathy Lake, Kristen Salomonson, Mark Schuelke, Linda Telfer and Alli Witucki.

Absent: Matt Chaney, Renee Douglas, Kristin Norton, Angie Roman, Paul Sullivan, Troy Tissue, and Leroy Wright.

Questions for VPs

Dan Burcham indicated that he had met with Sara Ansari and received a list of questions which he distributed from the Office of International Education. Below are the directors' responses.

1. We should encourage the Office of International Education to develop scholarships to meet the needs of their students. It is difficult for international students to maintain the required GPA as it puts additional pressure on them. The office needs a back-up scholarship and with a more realistic GPA and to tailor scholarships to that population.
2. Students are sent to various offices because International Education office does not want to tell them no or anything that might change their mind in coming to Ferris.
3. It was felt that OIE should be responsible for making sure that their students have financial support prior to coming to Ferris.
4. The international students need a complete understanding of financial aid prior to coming here.
5. International students do not get privileges in the rec center for some reason. When U-rec tries to activate their card, there is a big language barrier.
6. There are some problems with male international students accepting directions from female supervisors and obeying rules.
7. International students want to play cricket but no one else is interested; however, the international students keep pressuring the rec center staff.
8. Questioned where OIE is funded from.

Power Outage

Dan Burcham explained that the recent power outage was a "hit and miss" type of outage with everyone asked to leave at 2:00; however, power was restored in 1-1/2 hours. The Birkam Health Center was open for testing the entire time.

Cindy Horn indicated that their alarms went off. They moved everyone to the front lobby including the academic classes being taught during that time. Physical Plant was unsure if they had fire suppression. They kept staff on hold all day. The problem that was encountered was that U-rec was told that the motor behind the rock wall was "fried" and needed to be replaced.

They shut down the wall for a week and called when the motor was not being replaced. Physical Plant then told them that the motor was fine and not “fried.”

Dan reminded everyone that we need to keep the Communication Center informed as to what is going on. The directors spoke about issuing radios (walkie/talkie devices) for each building so that we could communicate easier. Mark will look into this.

Trends in Higher Education

Dan Burcham distributed an article on Trends in Higher Education. The article states observations and also lists thoughts from SCUP (Society for College and University Planning).

Poverty Article

Dan Burcham also distributed “More in Michigan Fall into Poverty” article for the directors to read.

University Center Visioning Powerpoint

Dan Burcham distributed copies of the University Center Visioning consultants’ findings. Below are some of the findings:

1. Students feel that there are retail opportunities for the University Center.
2. Parking is a current problem.
3. Students want a facility that they can call their own. (Zoning could be used.)
4. Commuter students are looking for the college experience.
5. Need theatre space for 300-500 people.
6. Need food on the north end of campus.
7. RHA suggested that a University Center would engage first year students and foster collaboration.
8. Student Government spoke about the reduction of services in the current facility.
9. Project is not a top priority for students.
10. Greeks feel there is a lack of visibility for them.
11. Students would like an “indoor commons.”
12. Graph indicates that 60% of the students are still on campus between 6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
13. Survey reveals that faculty/staff feel this is a high priority where students do not.

Dan asked:

1. How do we make this building recruit for us?
2. Should the bookstore be in the building?
3. What offices should be in this building?
4. How much office space do we want in this building?
5. How many conference rooms do we want?
6. Will parking be taken by Arts and Sciences students?

Chief Student Affairs Officers' Meeting

Mike Cairns will be attending the Michigan Chief Student Affairs Officers meeting and there were several topics that he needed information on such as:

1. Do we have policies regarding mandatory TB testing of international students?
2. Smoking ban enforcement advice – *We don't enforce.*
3. Does anyone outsource financial aid call center operations during peak times? – *No, we use our Communication Center first, then if they can't answer the questions it goes to Financial Aid.*
4. MHECare Student Health Insurance – *We do not require student health insurance.*
5. Any problems thus far with the medicinal marijuana? *No – can't smoke in residence halls anyway.*
6. Open Carry weapons – policies and/or problems? *We do not allow weapons on campus.*
7. Do we have an involuntary medical withdrawal policy? *Mike to talk to Paul.*
8. Retention initiative for STEM students or other special populations. *Mike to talk to Arts and Sciences.*
9. Are your auxiliaries being asked to contribute to the University Scholarship/Financial Aid budget? *Yes, \$2M*
10. What have you done to help Human Resources staff understand the needs of Student Affairs staff? *Student Employment informs HR that student employees should not be part-time workers.*
11. How does your campus handle controversial speakers? Who has been on your campus lately and have there been issues? *Yes we have had controversial speakers (Michael Moore, etc. – no problems other than students leaving during speaking engagement of one speaker.)*
12. Do you admit undocumented students? *Yes we admit undocumented students and charge them in-state tuition if they attended a Michigan high school.*
13. Standardized test scores – *Yes ACT, SAT – and we do use them.*
14. HS counselor or CC counselor breakfast/event – *Yes*
15. Group tours for middle school and/or elementary – *Yes- Admissions and OMSS (mostly middle school).*
16. Clever cost-effective professional development sessions for staff – *Use on-campus people.*
17. Graffiti walls/expression rocks – *Yes- The Rock.*
18. Campus Health Centers – provide services to general public – *No*

Dan Burcham

- Will be bringing General Education rubrics for to Administrative Council for discussion as many fall in out-of-classroom experiences, and we have many initiatives that can help with this.

Kathy Lake

- Troy Tissue's last day is next Friday as he has accepted a job with the State of Michigan as a liaison for higher education and veterans. There will be a potluck next Thursday from noon to 1:30. Shelli Garland has the sign-up sheet.

Kristen Salomonson

- Working on survey of non-returning African American students with not many responding. Amy Otteson is receiving many e-mails on this though.
- Not many were responding to the Behavior Review Team survey.
- Attended a Talent 2025 meeting.

Sara Dew

- Will be awarding money next week to Spring students coming in and will be looking for money for summer.
- Net Price Calculator (another federal regulation) is suppose to be available on our website by October 29 enabling students to compare out-of-pocket costs for different colleges.
- Dan Burcham noted that it looks like we will be going to \$0 increases for dining and housing.
- Carla Erlewine and Sara are meeting with the counselors regarding SAP but counselors are not real accepting of this. Don and Kristen to speak with Don Flickinger concerning this.

Mark Schuelke

- The new chairs for the Centennial Room are here.
- IFC and Panhel will be cleaning up North End River Park and will continue to do that.
- He and Mike Hughes toured the student centers at Oakland University and Eastern Michigan University and EMU has a really nice facility.
- Will be sending 4-5 student managers down to the regional ACUI conference at Ohio State (November 10, 11, 12) and are asking them to look at their student center and are asking them to make a presentation when they come back. Dan asked if some Student Government members could go with them. Dan also mentioned that the Construction Management students are working on a plan also.
- Jennifer Hagenhauer will be visiting the Gleacher Center in Chicago and will bring back pictures also.

Alli Witucki

- Homecoming went well with many residence halls participating this year.
- Over 1000 votes were cast for the king and queen candidates.
- Lots of students at the comedian.

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- October 28 & 29 – Fall Festival
- Have sold 400 tickets for the concert already.
- Ferris Fest survey will close this Friday with over 1500 votes already.
- Have been having collaboration meetings with Student Government, YBBW, OMSS, SLA, Student Affairs, and Finance Division to talk about the policies of the Student Government Finance Division.

Cindy Horn

- Cindy Horn and Cindi VanderSloot will be traveling to CMU to look at their Rec Center equipment.
- Still continuing to struggle with the Wellness Program and the membership discounts.
- Intramurals are stronger than ever with every sport being maxed out and very few complaints.
- Intramurals have more females officiating now since Fern started.
- Swim lessons are packed full.
- Racquet facility had someone smoking pot in their sauna.
- The rec center usage is averaging between 5000-6500 patrons.

Mike Cairns

- Thanked the directors for submitting their Diversity Reports. Only one department did not submit anything.

Angie Roman's Announcements

October 27 – Bill VanSteenis, author and recruiter, will be presenting to faculty/staff at 11:00 a.m. with the first 10 attendees receiving his book free and at 6:00 to students with the first 40 attendees receiving a free book. He will be speaking on what skills make a job candidate “in demand.”

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Telfer
Executive Secretary to the
Vice President for Student Affairs