Meeting Minutes

Present: Amanda Buchanan, Nicholas Cheatham, Callin Curry, Warren Feng, Margarita Gonzales, Forest Hibbard, Anthony LeRoy, Aadil Nakhoda, Robert Passemar, John Steele, Free Moini, Alma Sifuentes, Lucy Rojas

Absent: Edward Garcia, Chelsea Manlapig

Guests: Allison Galloway, Felicia McGinty

1. Approval of Agenda
   a. Agenda approved

2. Announcements / Updates
   a. Amanda explains that Ellen is no longer the staff to the committee. Lucy Rojas and Alma Sifuentes will take on the staff and advising responsibilities effectively immediately.
      1. Alma explains that Student Affairs has just implemented a re-organization following the vacancy of an AVC position and other changes in the division. AVC Sue Matthews will be expanding her responsibilities (including oversight for the Colleges) and Ellen will be supporting her full time.
      2. Amanda explains that on January 31st, we will have a thank you celebration for Ellen. Half the meeting will be the referenda presentations and the other half will be a thank you for Ellen.
   b. M7 Reports distributed
   c. Discussion Questions for VC McGinty and EVC Galloway distributed. There is a brief discussion regarding the questions, then questions are assigned to individual SFAC members to be asked during the session

3. Summer Fee Discussion/Vote
   a. Amanda explains that SFAC votes by consensus, and if the group cannot reach a consensus, then a vote is taken by College.
   b. Amanda asks SFAC members if they presented the summer fees proposal at their colleges. Everyone responds in the affirmative.
   c. Amanda asks if there are any objections to approving by consensus. There are no objections, and so the proposal is approved.
   d. Free explains that a meeting will be convened shortly to review SFAC's proposal; he asks if SFAC has a recommendation regarding whether the college student government fee should be collected in the summer? Free explains that that the student government fee would change the total fee amount by $6 or $7.
      1. Forest (Crown) explains that Crown College says no, student government fee should not be collected in the summer.
      2. Callin (Stevenson) explains that Stevenson agrees, fee should not be collected in the summer.

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3. Anthony (Porter) responds that Porter concurs, fee should not be collected in the summer.

4. Amanda (Oakes) responds that Oakes also concurs, fee should not be collected in the summer.

5. Robert (College 9) explains that College 9 did not reach consensus on whether to charge student government fee in the summer, however, more people were in favor of charging the fee so larger, year-end events could be funded, i.e. graduation.

6. Amanda asks if there are any objections to the SFAC recommending that the student government fee not be collected in the summer. After discussion, the group does not reach consensus and moves to a vote. “Yes” vote indicates a vote that the college government fee not be collected in the summer, and a “No” vote indicates that the fee should be collected in the summer.
   i. Yes Votes: Crown, Porter, Merrill, Stevenson, Oakes (5)
   ii. No Votes: College 9, College 10 (2)
   iii. Not present for vote: Cowell, Kresge
   iv. Based on a vote of 5 to 2, SFAC will recommend that a charge for student government fee not be included in the summer fees total.

   e. Free asks if the committee would like to disburse the 2010 summer fees that have been collected based on the 2011 recommended fee structure? SFAC discusses and concurs with Free's recommendation.

4. AVC Campus Life Measure 7 Presentation – Alma Sifuentes
   a. Alma provides some background information and context for the Campus Life Administrative unit.
   b. Alma explains that her office provides many direct services to students; including working with students who have ideas for initiatives who may not be registered student organizations, working one-on-one with students who are challenged with campus bureaucracy, etc.
   c. Alma explains that currently she employs approximately 20 students, at the Hahn Student Affairs front office, in the Ambassador program, and other internships that are placed in departments around campus.
   d. Alma explains that the Measure 7 funding in her immediate office funds the Assistant Dean's salary, who supports students via coordinating resources, coordinating Campus Elections, Student Regent recruitment, etc.
   e. Following the presentation, Alma takes off her “presenter's” hat and puts on her “adviser’s” hat and explains that the Vice Chancellor is open to receiving a recommendation from SFAC, should SFAC assess that Measure 7 funding should be shifted from one unit to another.
   f. Please review Alma's presentation and budget sheets for more detailed information.

5. Student Services Fee 8% increase
   a. Amanda explains that there is a general feeling systemwide, with other SFAC's, that SFAC’s are not seeing the kind of budget information that they really need to see.
b. Amanda encourages everyone to revisit the student services fee explanation in the training manual.

c. There is going to be an 8% increase on the student services fee. Amanda explains that SFAC should see those monies and should be able to recommend where those monies are going to go. We need to be able to assert that we are aware of these funds, and that we recognize our role in advising on how they are allocated.

d. Free explains that there will be mandatory costs that will be swept from the fee increase, including expenses such as salary programs for staff (salary increases). If so, there probably won’t be anything left over.

6. VCSA Felicia McGinty, EVC Allison Galloway discussion

   a. Introductions
   
   b. Priorities for the year:
      
      i. Allison explains that the UC is preparing for $500 million cut from state funding. The campus has set aside funds to absorb part of the cut that we are anticipating this year. The cuts that we are anticipating are not helpful, and will be painful throughout the campus. We need to preserve educational quality while addressing cuts. When looking at fees that students pay, we want to ensure that fees are going to the services for which they are intended. Transparency is key and helps save money in the long run.

      ii. Felicia – my priorities are the EVC’s priorities. My goal as VCSA is to try to create more transparency and simplify things. I am here to help facilitate getting information that you need and in a way that you can understand it. Promote greater transparency. A priority for me is to maintain the student experience, and to implement required reductions with the least impact to students. There are more cuts and we have to be creative about reducing our budgets in ways that are the least harmful to students.

      iii. There is a follow up question regarding what Allison means by educational quality: educational quality….students understand how to declare a major, can finish a major, and after graduation can take that major to a job or graduate school. Preserve 1:1 interaction with faculty and graduate students; opportunities for research and service learning. Budget cuts will mean larger classes, fewer classes, faculty’s ability to monitor students is decreased which means more scantron tests and less 1:1 attention.

   c. Amanda explains this year’s priorities for SFAC: reviewing Measure 7 funded units; educational campaign; summer fees recommendation. This year, SFAC will make an official statement on new proposed fees that will be a part of the Campus Elections ballot. Felicia compliments the group for their substantive work this year, and expresses her interest in receiving the recommendations. Allison adds that it’s helpful to include with any recommendations, the principles that were used to reach conclusions and recommendations.

   d. Felicia explains that the Student Affairs Division is available to help support the educational campaign and to provide SFAC a greater web presence, for instance. Felicia suggests an online forum where students can “chat” with SFAC. Felicia suggests that SFAC consider evolving the office hours requirement, so that reps are spending time in their Colleges, Bay Tree, etc. (in addition or instead of at Hahn).
e. Felicia and Allison are asked about the process for allocation of new fees. Felicia responds that that this group is a body that comes together annually to make recommendations, even if there are no new monies in any particular year. Felicia explains that she does not enter each year, anticipating the same recommendations; she is open to SFAC’s recommendations each year. SFAC’s advice is relevant.

f. Question: Amanda explains that systemwide there is a lot of talk about the new 8% fee increase, and importance for transparency in general when new funding is allocated. What will be the campus approach to these new funds?
   i. Felicia: we should be as transparent as possible. First, it's important to note that what is allocated to the campus by OP may not match up exactly to what you pay, but once the allocation is here on campus, we will be as transparent as possible.
   ii. Allison explains that this is a complex issue because of different funding streams. Allison thanks Felicia for ensuring that funds that come in as student services fees are used for their intended purposes.
   iii. Allison explains that often an administrator's assessment of how to utilize resources may differ from what students really need, that's why bodies such as SFAC are so critical.

g. A question is asked regarding ideas for distributing the SFAC educational flier.
   i. Felicia provides the following ideas:
      o Distribution to RA’s and attending RA council meetings
      o SUA General Body
      o Graduate Student Association
      o “Unbury” SFAC’s website on the Student Affairs website
      o Campus Sustainability Council
      o Engaging Education
      o Online chat or posting a FAQ’s
      o Facebook
      o Faye Crosby, the new faculty representative to SFAC, would be a great bridge to the Council of Provosts
      o SAB – work through John to present to the Staff Advisory Board and to include staff in the SFAC process.

h. Felicia asks if she can come back later this quarter, or in spring quarter to discuss Athletics. The group responds affirmatively. Allison explains that she and Chancellor are working on scheduling a budget forum in the next month and she will be in touch to provide more details.

Meeting adjourned

Reminder
Next meeting
Monday, January 31, 2011
3:30 – 4:45 PM
Cervantes and Velasquez Conf. Rm.
Presenter: Lucy Rojas, Referenda Authors – Referenda presentations