Student Affairs Committee
Monday, December 7, 2015
9:00 am

Minutes

Present: S. Ohannesian (chair), R. Risam (vice chair), T. Fitzpatrick (recorder), C. Sullivan, W. O'Neill, E. Loescher, J. Kelleher, R. Carducci, J. Ranga

Guests: D. Williams, R. Comage, J. Golden, M. McDonald, J. Herman, M. Roberts

1.   Review of Nov. 2 meeting minutes. Minutes approved unanimously.

2.   Comprehensive Preferred Name Policy | Daniel Williams, Registrar's Office, Rebecca Comage & Julia Golden, Diversity & Multicultural Affairs, and three students presenting

    Why & How:
    - Creates a consistent name experience for students on campus (first names only).
    - Makes it easier for students, faculty, and staff; and prioritizes the introduction of this policy into the many internal systems on campus over time.
    - Benchmarking done, looked at best practices at other institutions. University of Wisconsin Madison a role model.
    - LGBTQ and international students most effected population.
    - There is language included on what it means to misrepresent yourself in case of potential student misuse, however most institutions to not report this as a problem.

    Discussion:
    - Issues around safety measure/emergency situations and having legal name displayed with preferred (balancing risks with that as well). Legal name will be on back of Clipper Card, preferred on front. Navigator, Degree Tracker, any system interacting with student will have preferred name. Transcripts and financial aid will have legal. It is possible legal could be added to roster. Effort is being made to educate campus on implications of choosing a preferred name.

      Committee asks if question could be added to Navigator asking students "What name do you want to be used in case of an emergency?" R. Comage to inquire.

    - Committee asks if a pronoun can be put on roster? Reply is possibly, questions around limitations to PeopleSoft can be looked into.

- Discussed need to have conversations/education on campus in regards to how to ask about pronouns, other pronouns that can be used. Student representatives stress that it is a fluid process for someone figuring it out.

- Question of when does a student identify gender / change preferred name?
  Students first identify gender when applying to SSU. Preferred name can be changed any time.

  Discussion regarding notification options when preferred name changed. Considering prompt option so faculty can be notified (especially if changed mid-semester).

  After discussion ideal notification options to offer student include: I'll notify professor / Notify Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Office liaison for me / Notify professor for me

- Question regarding PeopleSoft and how names display (legal/preferred/graduating)
  PeopleSoft users will need to be diligent with sub-names and how they display.
  Some screens only show primary name.
  How does this impact interaction?

- Discussion of the university's campaign to educate the campus on the preferred name policy (& pronouns) includes promoting awareness, workshops, etc. Education for student residents and commuters may differ. Education on long-term effects/expectations for students who choose preferred name should be included. Learning process for everyone and will become easier over time.

  Vote taken, 9 in favor. Comprehensive Preferred Name Policy unanimously passed.

3.   Update on Change of Grade and Appeals and Contesting of Grades Policy

- Spring 2015 Academic Policy Committee provided revision of language. This friendly amendment was submitted to Academic Policy on May 7, 2015 and was approved.
- Policy to be added to catalog. C. Sullivan to check.

4.   Sophomore data sub-committee
- Data requested from N. Kundaliya and additional data asked for after first batch received. Data will be shared after Winter Break.

5.   Sophomore research group
- R. Risam to create Google Doc to send to members.
- Sophomore experience examples seem to be at elite universities (Duke, Harvard, etc.).

- University Texas at Dallas has Sophomore Year Experience and Student Success Center.
- University South Carolina has "National Resource Center" that includes institute on sophomore success and conference on students in transition.

6. S. Ohannesian will send Doodle for scheduling next semester's meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Fitzpatrick