

Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 8, 2019 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Haverhill: Isabelle Gagne, Deb McKinney, Deb LaValley, Kelly Sanborn, Liz Teoli, Jennifer Levesque, Hilmar von Strunck

Lawrence: Karen Hruska

Students: Daniel Keating (student), Hannah Benning (SGA rep/student)

Absent: Meredith Gunning (A), Emily Gonzalez, Kirsten Kortz, Eldiane Elmeus, Brian MacKenna-Rice, Amy Cameron (A), Solanyi Munoz (A), Amanda Fregeau, Kathy Hudson, Alexander Quiroz (A, student)

1. 3/11/2019 Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion to approve: Karen Hruska
- b. Seconded: Jennifer Levesque
- c. All in attendance agreed, no changes necessary

2. Student of the Month

- a. The committee voted unanimously to select 2 winners (one for April and one for May due to the number of nominations)

*****There was a discrepancy in the wording for the Student of the Month, we selected a student for March at the meeting on March 4, 2019, so the 2 students selected at this meeting are for April and May*****

b. 4 nominees:

- i. Joe Paquin (nominated by Janel D'Agata Lynch) *EGC Winner for April
- ii. Delia Chitas (nominated by John Sabbagh) *EGC Winner for May
- iii. Daniel Keating (nominated by Sharon McManus)
- iv. Aria Young (nominated by Sheila Corsaro)
- v. Jesus Guzman (nominated by Martina Norska)

3. SGA Updates/Concerns

- a. Student body elections are coming up
 - i. Any students already registered for classes and in good standing at NECC are eligible to run for SGA positions, they do need to have 50 student signatures on a petition, but it's a wonderful opportunity for current students to get involved.
 - ii. Updating public safety concerns:
 1. Deb Crafts will attend the SGA meeting on 4/18/19 to discuss the issues with the lack of safety and security on both NECC campuses.
 - a. Blue security lights not working in multiple locations across campus.
 - b. Fire Safety phones are not useful to deaf or blind persons, where are the accessible options? Is this on the radar?
 - c. There are no security parking lot phones in Lawrence, the college has known about this for over 5 years (at least since 2013).

Action: Isabelle will send this information/these concerns to Deb Crafts and Bill Heineman for follow-up.

- iii. SGA presented funds for new furniture to the new student lounge as the class gift. The funds are coming out of the SGA budget, which is understandably larger than the budget of various NECC clubs.
- iv. How can the Student Affairs Committee better support the SGA? Vengerfluatta is the advisor for SGA, let's brainstorm and confer with her for future planning.
- v. Night students & Food Insecurity: Janel D'Agata-Lynch is following up with the tutoring centers that stay open late to ensure that they have pop-up PB&J stations and their supplies. The issues at Lawrence are difficult to clear up because of the variety in spaces. Hopefully, this will become significantly easier once Dimitry comes back online in the Fall of 2019.
 1. Karen H: It's not that we don't have the supplies (Smart Meals, etc...), but that we need to have someone take ownership over the meals themselves, as Karen and Janel are not here in the evening hours.
 2. Concerns to take back to Bill Heineman & Lane Glenn: We need freezers, spaces, and persons responsible for all of the above. This cannot lie on one person or one location, as the professional staff is already pulled quite thin. There are budgetary funds (Karen) for wellness monies, but this is a very difficult issue to deal with at the moment. Advertising any food initiatives on campus competes with the sales of food on campus, which is not the intention of these various initiatives.
 - a. We need to take into consideration the financial situation at the moment. Although these are important initiatives, we must be concerned with the financial needs/implications of starting/continuing such programs. This is being discussed regularly between Karen, Janel, Tina, and Bill. AmeriCorps Vista will have a FT employee on campus in the fall to assist in making these things happen.

Action: This will be added to the September agenda for updates.

4. Student Services Updates/Concerns
 - a. Regarding Lawrence, there is no timeline for the moves, there is minimal information regarding it. There is a significant amount of condensing of services and staff, and when concerns or ideas are brought up it seems as if they are shrugged off and/or ignored.
 - b. As student support services on the Lawrence Campus continue to be shifted and condensed, the divide in equity of services provided to each campus becomes more apparent.

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- c. The fact that there is no timeframe makes employees fear that it will turn out exactly as the ill-fated learning accommodations moves did last summer. All of this poses many potential interruptions for services severely hindering students' abilities to receive necessary services, especially since ESL summer classes start the day after spring finals end.

5. Fees

a. Increases:

- i. The Board of Trustees voted to raise fees by \$6 per unit. This was discussed by the finance committee, but not by other standing committees, such as this one.
- ii. Daniel Keating: When Mike McCarthy & Michele Tremblay went to the finance committee meeting the finalized budget was not available, so the numbers were not broadcast. The finance committee was satisfied with the reasoning behind the fee increase, so they voted accordingly.

b. Credit card fees:

- i. 2.5% fees are attached to any bills that are paid online, the only way to avoid this is to pay in person by check.

c. Transparency about the cost of attendance

- i. Tabled until May

6. Student Affairs "Priorities" for AY 20-21

Action: Liz will compile the list of SAC initiatives and send it to Isabelle for review and then send them out to the SAC for approval & importance ranking.

Action: Isabelle will compile question lists for next month's guests and send them to Liz who will distribute them to SAC members for approval. After the committee approves the questions they will be sent to the appropriate guests.

7. Motion to adjourn:

- a. Daniel Keating 3:25 pm, seconded by Liz Teoli
 - i. All present agreed.