

## Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 2, 2020

2pm to 4pm, Haverhill A 112/ Lawrence L 244

**Haverhill:** Isabelle Gagne, Liz Teoli, Deb LaValley, Jennifer Levesque, Brian MacKenna-Rice, Kelly Sanborn, Rachel Harris (Boersma), Gabe Garcia (A), Meredith Gunning

**Lawrence:** Kathy Hudson

**Student(s):** Rowan Kelly

**Absent:** Tiffany Esmerio (A/email), Jacqueline Dick (email), Amy Cameron, Deb McKinney, Emily Gonzalez, Eldiane Elmeus

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1. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm by Chairperson Isabelle Gagne.
2. 2/3/2020 meeting minutes
  - a. Brian MacKenna-Rice motioned to accept the minutes as is, Isabelle Gagne seconded.
3. February Students of the Month
  - a. Zadia Pimentel Gamboa was nominated by John Sabbagh and Amy Larkin-White was nominated by Angela Bowers. Amy Larkin-White was randomly selected to receive the EGC.
  - b. Discussion about how to increase awareness of the Student of the Month program ensued. It was recommended that Liz emails the announcement directly to the dean and administrative staff members of each department.

**Action: Liz will send information about the SotM to deans and departmental admin for the next round of SotM nominations**

4. Dimitry Building Space
  - a. There was a robust discussion about the relocation of student services from El Hefni (LC) to Dimitry (L). There have been conflicting reports of whether or not the new locations are permanent, or are still a work in progress. Committee members would like to know why faculty were not consulted about spatial needs. ESL faculty request space for the intake process.
  - b. A major concern at this time is that the welcome center is being put behind a wall and not in the large open area that is currently labeled as "multipurpose."
  - c. In addition to having a smaller amount of space, tutoring is slated to lose important private rooms where students are able to be tutored one on one in a quiet, distraction-free atmosphere.
  - d. Committee members fear that all of these changes will result in a loss of students, as well as a loss of continuity and quality in student services. It appears to be similar to the ill-fated Learning Accommodations relocation of 2019.
    - i. Student Rep (Rowan): Students were very confused and upset by all of the relocations and confusion around the relocations. They did not understand why everything was moved around, and were unable to locate the services they needed as no one (faculty, staff, and students) knew where anything was. Signage was non-existent, the website was very

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outdated and unhelpful, and there was a very noticeable lack of communication.

**Action: Isabelle will convey the concerns of the committee to Dr. Mezquita.**

5. Updates on Relationship with Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs (Jennifer Mezquita)
  - a. Isabelle reported that she and Dr. Mezquita will be meeting once per month to proactively discuss issues that are of interest to the committee. She is hopeful that this will be a positive and honest relationship.
6. Student Affairs Priorities for 2020-2021
  - a. The following initiatives were identified as being a priority for the SAC:
    - i. Committee recruitment: There are a number of open positions that need to be filled to allow for better representation of departments.
    - ii. Lawrence campus bookstore: scheduled hours

**Action: Isabelle will attend the Finance Committee meeting on 3/4/2020 to discuss an action plan for the Lawrence bookstore**

- iii. Departmental relocations (Dimitry/El Hefni)
    - iv. Learning accommodations note-takers
    - v. Make SGA more welcoming
    - vi. Student initiative fund (Isabelle)
7. Update on Dean of Student interviews
  - a. The forums were well attended. All candidates were equally qualified and impressive. Only 1 candidate had Community College experience.
8. Committee Recruitment
  - a. Isabelle will reach out to various offices.
9. The meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.
  - a. Rachel Boersma (Harris) motioned to adjourn and Brian MacKenna-Rice seconded.

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**\*\*\*Submitted by Liz Teoli on 3/5/2020 and Isabelle Gagne on 3/10/2020\*\*\***