

SLAAC Meeting Minutes February 12, 2015

In Attendance:

Khadijah Stewart, Lynn Ishikawa, Kathryn Millis, Claire Halffield, Cody Watson, Ellen Tinder, Julianne Miranda, Cara Bargiacchi, Smita Rahman, Dorian Schager

Meeting starts at 4:07pm

- Approval of minutes postponed because of failure to attach file to earlier email. Will do so at the conclusion of the meeting

#1: Update on February Faculty meeting:

- KM: There was a question for SLAAC about follow-up to Diversity Dialogue and some discussion of faculty and staff training. Conversation about hiring external facilitators for training, future steps by DEC, and also about the absence of Bon Appetit employees on Diversity Dialogue day
- SR: Carrie and Renee coming to our next meeting to update us on faculty diversity training
- LI: I was part of planning along with Cody for Diversity Dialogue day and now a smaller subgroup has been formed that is doing the follow-up. Original Cmte was formed by volunteers, but its open if people want to be a part of it.
- CW: A lot of the action centered around plan by Casey to get a diversity plan
- SR: Question about SLAAC's role in this discussion, given that DEC has taken the lead on organization and planning. We could take on a bigger piece of this if we want to, but what do we as a committee want to do in this area?
- DS: Thrilled to have DEC up and running because they can dive deeper into it than SLAAC can, Day of Dialogue group is even more focused on it, SLAAC could be more broadly intentional
- SR: Do we want to say we would like a rep on DEC, in the working group
- Cody: SLAAC does the whole community and that works well.
- Cody could serve as our liaison to the Day of Dialogue sub group
- SR:MDEC doesn't report to us, they report to the president. Do we want to look into that? Perhaps something to suggest
- KM:: Important to keep things from going on the back burner. Would be good to see something codified about DEC in the FGSC reforms and their connection to us could be specified to us in some way.
- SR: I will bring that to the attention of FGSC at our next meeting when we discuss governance reform

#2: Request by Faculty member for SLAAC to issue statement on behalf of faculty to end Greek Life on campus:

- SR shared details of email and FGSC request and invited discussion of the request by the committee
- ET: Would this request apply to multicultural houses, or panhellenic, or IFC?

- SR: The request doesn't make any of those distinctions.
- HC: Not sure what the committee can do this broadly. Particularly at this time, this seems to be a premature request. It represents a strong point of view, but not sure this is the committee's role to formulate such a statement.
- JM: It is premature, although there is some merit to this request. Wonder if it's not more appropriate for this committee to put out statements on academic atmosphere. Might be very appropriate statements of quality on these issues—given hospitalizations over Winter Term
- KS: If this person wants to appeal to faculty, might be better to personally appeal to faculty at the faculty meeting.
- KM: This person should appeal directly to faculty colleagues. Not sure where this goes, would appeal to the Board?
- DS: One way to approach this broader conversation would be to ask for an update on the Greek Fact-finding commission that existed several years ago, 2007, maybe? SLAAC could say it has been 7 years and that it would like an update.
- HC: Is the 2007 Report still available online?
- KM: Found some portions of it online (*Note: These and other portions were circulated by email to SLAAC members after committee meeting.)
- SR: Do we want to ask for a status update on the Greek fact-finding commission from Christopher Wells?
- CW: What do faculty want to know about the Greek system? We don't know what you want until we talk about it. How can we get messages out about what we are doing? How can we open that communication to us?
- CB: Lots of positives in the Greek system that faculty are perhaps not so aware of
- SR: I want to think about moving beyond this specific faculty request which is outside the scope of the committee. So we agree then that I will respond to the faculty member saying the committee discussed it and think the request is outside the purview of the committee and we don't want to take it up at this time but that we are asking Christopher Wells for a status update on the Greek FFC. I will also send that request to VP of Student Life Christopher Wells after our meeting. KM will circulate the portions of the 2007 report that's available online.
- Discussion about whether we want to issue a broad statement on academic atmosphere.
- DS: SLAAC about ten years ago made a statement about new member education that it was being done too close to finals. Also wrote a statement about residentiality. For Greek life it could do something similar philosophically.
- JM: Perhaps we issue a statement after we get the update on Greek FFC
- KS: Has any action been taken on alcohol use over winter term? Are outside consultants involved?
- DS: We are changing the survey we give on alcohol use in the Spring, perhaps SLAAC could look into that when the survey results come in

4. Possible Revisions to Academic Integrity Policy on Abuse of Academic Materials (*handout circulated that contains draft language for potential revisions)

- KM introduces the issue and how it has become a problem with respect to library reserves and inter-library loan. In the past we have discussed this issue briefly but put it off. However, KM talked to JM before our meeting today and they think might want to hold off on it for a little longer.
- JM: Several things are coming out of academic life over the next few weeks. There are several projects that include online modules for academic integrity violations, to provide information after the first offense and to prevent second offense. Academic life is trying to shift the conversation from punishment to pedagogy. We want to create resources that faculty can integrate into the classroom. Outcome of all of this is that we will end up reviewing the academic integrity policy as a whole and revising it
- KM: At some point in this process the role of library materials have to be discussed. The library is concerned that we haven't applied this policy very much when these violations occur with respect to library materials. We want the language to be more clearly outlined and more clearly linked to academic integrity and not general community standards.
- SR: Given this discussion, and the likelihood of significant revisions to the Academic Integrity Policy in a few months, do we want to do this portion of the revisions later as part of the total package?
- KM: Librarians are fine with that but need to be part of the conversation about policy revisions.
- JM: We would want specific data about how many late returns. What can you do about registration etc? One concern is about seeing this as materials management. The language needs more clarity.
- CB: We are not going to be punished for returning a book late in the same way as stealing lab materials?
- KM: Not for average offense, but for those that are months late and sometimes involve ILL.
- SR: When might SLAAC see the actual draft language for the revisions to the Academic Integrity policy?
- JM: The online component might come after spring break.

Approval of December meeting minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 PM