

February 6, 2019

Student Academic Life Committee Minutes

Present:

Shafrarisi Bonner, Eduardo Garcia, Doug Harmes (chair), Johnny Bonilla, Naima Shifa, Marianne Martinez, Myrna Hernandez, Allen Hill, Tom Ball

Common read: (*Committee will be comprised of*)

Dean of students or designate (Sarah Ryan)

First-year class dean or designate (Cara Setchel)

Member of this committee --Naima Shifa

Member of the WCC (Rebecca Schindler)

Librarian (Ruth Szpunar)

(DSG President and DSG VP of Academic Life) - Marianne Martinez, Tabitha Adams

Graduating Senior - Courtney Oliver

One peer mentor (Liam Byrnes)

Two at-large (Angela Flury, Joe Heithaus)

Bias Incidents Communication Protocol

- Question: Who's making judgments and how are they making these judgments?
 - First step: information bulletin from public safety
 - If it's a direct, and or immediate, specific threat an alert will be sent to the community because it is of harm to the community
 - Hogate incident
 - Was not threatening, hurtful but not directed at a particular individual
 - Classroom n-word usage... Is a campus email necessary? Ex. of judgment call situation
 - Who makes the judgment? Police, Myrna/ Allen (where, nature, what do you know)
 - Second Tear/step: Dean of students (Myrna) reaches out, resources such as the CDI have been opened for support, spaces are opened to be ready to talk about incidents/situations
 - Next, VP reaches out or the President reaches out. A conversation between President and VP about the situation/incident
 - If an egregious incident occurs that need to take into account the values of the institution, a conversation between Allen and president happens then make a statement
 - Does not mean that one happens and then this happens.. Each incident is different, based on who reports, where it happens, when etc. Depending on the level different judgment calls will be made
- After last spring, DePauw added 2 logs
 - Questions: What other ways of communicating do we have besides email?
 - Anytime a pub safe alert\any and every report gets updated on the next business day on the [Information Bulletin Updates](#)
 - [BIRT log](#)
 - How do we continue to remind people of the resources we have?
 - When you have a situation like the Hogate situation, from protocol standpoint admin has to tell whole campus taken
- Myrna- BIRT - disagreement on whether or not to report to entire campus
 - Possible opt-in to subscription for alerts for every single incident?
 - Link to see what exactly was done, exact words, exact photo for specific details
 - Student recommendation: have everyone automatically opt-in and then if they decide to not receive alerts they can opt out. This way entire student body has access to that information

- Should consider increasing transparency through the use of all social platforms (ie: Snapchat stories, Instagram stories, twitter, etc)
- Hate speech and hate crime are very different. Referencing the Hogate incident, those were just words not targeted at a specific person but what happens if there is a pattern or series of events that occur?
 - An email will go out
 - Patterns are considered
- How much of internal procedures are public?
 - Student opinion: student/individual affected should have to say in how much of the information is made public. Also, need to take into account how a mass message in social media displaying images of the incident may be triggering.
 - Needs to be a balance of disseminating information
 - Possibly sending out a censored version and giving access to full/explicit information
 - Different decision will be made based on the nature of the situation
- What happens when there's a classroom incident?
 - Allen consults w/ Anne Harris

Demonstration Policy

- Committee of students created with Dorian
 - Going through policy line by line and making edits
 - Revisions/updates will be given to SAL committee when completed
- Doug suggested a committee with faculty to come up with revisions and suggestions for demonstration policy... can work closely with the student committee
- A mixture of students who don't want policy and others who want revision... many students are unsure of the specifics of policy, believe its a way to stifle students voice
 - What are the penalties for taking certain actions?
- Faculty also mixed on policy
 - Yellow flags of policy: "normal operations of university" this is only mentioned on demonstration policy- this should be mentioned elsewhere. **NO** event should disrupt university function, shouldn't just target demonstrations.
 - Response team shouldn't just be a "demonstration" response team but a "disturbance" response team. Lots of other things can be a disturbance.
- Clarification: behaviors are sanctioned, not the demonstration. Ex: verbal versus physical actions
 - We already have conduct policies... So maybe policy should be we allow demonstrations and protests and we encourage students when they occur and here are these other policies that may be relevant (ie code of conduct)

Other Items

- Have been asked to look at:
 - Religious holy days policy .. ask Rich about inviting Kate Smanik to meet on the 20th?
 - Retention reports
 - Athletics commitment
 - Releasing alcohol stats?
 - Could release campus climate results
- Report feedback about the committee and things you'd like to be on the meeting agenda

Meeting adjourned 5:16 pm