Wayne State University  
Proceedings of the Student Affairs Committee  
January 19, 2011


Absent With Notice: Liza Lagman Sperl, Thomas Smith

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM. The Agenda was adopted and the Minutes of December 8, 2010 were approved without corrections.

The committee had two speakers scheduled for today: Cheryl Kollin, Interim Director of University Advising Center (UAC) and Albert Hermsen, Director of Student Financial Aid (OSFA)

As neither speaker had arrived we took agenda items out of order. The Broken Audit website was discussed. The link is www.facilities.wayne.edu. In the lower right hand corner click “Submit a Work Order”.

Faculty again requested that student pictures be available on class rosters or at least viewable by the faculty. Faculty in the Medical School has the ability to get student pictures. There may be legal ramifications and privacy issues about having pictures. The chair was requested to call Michelle Miller and Ricardo Villarosa of the Law School and then to draft a letter to the Policy Committee concerning this request.

It was requested that an Old Business item be added to the agenda for future meetings.

Ms. Kollin and Mr. Hermsen came in during the picture discussion, and we returned to the order of the agenda.

Ms. Kollin handed out several handouts: The Academic Advising Syllabus which is given to entering students at Orientation, a blank copy of the Academic advising Worksheet and a sheet which explains what services for students that academic advisors are able to provide. UAC advises all students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts and all pre-professional students prior to admission to the professional program. They help students navigate the system and advise on the general education requirements of their respective programs. They do not do advising for the major requirements. They see roughly 15,000 to 17,000 students per academic year. They have a program for students on probation for their first semester called WayneREACH; and they have a program for reinstated students who were excluded from the University and allowed to re-enter and continue their education. UAC is an integral part of the orientation process for students new to the university both for First Time in Any College (FTIAC) and transfer students. They now assign students to a specific advisor at Orientation.

The advisors want students to set goals such as when do they want to graduate and then make a plan to do so. The office is part of the retention efforts of the University. There is now an electronic plan or work in STARS (Student Tracking and Advising Retention System). Beginning in Fall 2011 there will be a four year graduation guarantee plan (name to be determined) in which the university promised to have the classes necessary to complete the degree in the allotted time frame or make substitutions. Advisors want students to complete all competencies by the end of thirty hours. There are two Learning Communities run by the UAC: Veterans LC and pre-med LC. There is one advisor dedicated to veteran students. Drop
in advising is offered every Tuesday and for the first two weeks and the last two weeks of the semester. There is an Advisor of the Day available to answer quick questions. Something new this past fall is that students declare an intended major upon entry into the University.

Contact Information: e-mail: c.kollin@wayne.edu and phone number: 313-577-5821.

Mr. Hermsen of OSFA distributed his PowerPoint presentation. Financial Aid is complicated. The university needs to make sure the money is given to the correct people. OSFA is involved in the retention efforts of the University. The key to receiving need-based aid is the filling out and filing of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). OSFA has two deadlines for filling out the FAFSA: February 15 and April 1. The earlier students and parents fill out and file the FAFSA, the earlier the aid package can be determined. Participants in Scholars Day can get $3,000/year for four years. 80% of all WSU students get some form of financial aid; that amounts to $344,000,000 of aid. The majority of aid money is loans which amounts to $225,700,000. 10% of students who receive financial aid have financial holds for Winter term. This is because the student did not do what he/she needed to do.

Wayne State has moved to an Equity Packaging model to help students cover tuition and fees without loans. The poorest students no longer have to take out loans to cover costs. 49% or 2,800 students who had an expected family contribution of $0 no longer had to borrow money. OSFA now scans and images documents so information is not lost or misplaced. This Winter term a book voucher system at Barnes and Noble was piloted so students whose financial aid was complete could buy their books before classes started. Director Hermsen would like to have parents have access to their child’s information such as financial aid records, bill and grades. The student allows the parent to have access. Michigan State University has such a system. In order to recruit more out of state students to WSU, the Anthony Wayne Scholarship was instituted. Students who live out-of-state but who are not eligible for the Good Neighbor Policy tuition can be considered for this scholarship. Students must live in the U.S. be either citizens or permanent residents. It pays $36,000 ($9,000 for a maximum of four years). This scholarship is not restricted to tuition. Minimum requirements are a 3.2 high school GPA and a 22 ACT at the end of the junior year.

Contact information: e-mail: dx4245@wayne.edu and phone number: 313-577-3533.

A discussion followed regarding the move of the Computer Science Department (CS) to the College of Engineering. It was reported that for Fall 2010 there were 2,155 CS students. It was broken down as follows: Lower Division 1,574; Upper Division 216 or 1,790 undergraduate students; graduate students 365. Concerns expressed included the following: the lack of a plan as to the transition of current students; the difference in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences requirements and the College of Engineering requirements including but not limited to general education choices; the lack of student participation in the process; the rapidity of the move without careful considerations and plans. The chair was requested to draft a memo to Seymour Wolfson, circulate it to the committee, and then send the corrected version to him.

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 1:30 in 2318 UGL.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm.