

Final Report Student Affairs Committee 2021—2022

This year the Student Affairs Committee met 7 times. Here are highlights of the 15 topics we covered:

- 1. The Future of Higher Education:** The committee discussed the three areas of discussion: Students, Study Abroad, and Credentialing.

Students: The central focus of this subcommittee was transitions. Support services were also identified.

Study Abroad: The subcommittee focused on researching trends at other universities as well as trends here at Wayne State.

Credentialing: The idea of credentialing springs from the idea that universities need to be hubs of lifelong learning.

- 2. Revisions of the Student Code of Conduct:** There are two levels of academic misconduct 10.1A and 10.1B. 10.1A is the more informal of the two and does not require the filing of formal charges against the student. Both the student and the faculty member have the right to be heard. The university uses a computer platform called MAXIENT that records a record of misconduct. 10.1B is the filing of formal charges against the student or students. This is not a grade appeal. The key additions to the code include the opportunity for the faculty member to be heard in advance of the decision to modify a grade adjustment. In the event of a grade adjustment, the faculty member must be provided with a written statement of the reasons for overriding the faculty member's judgement. If it goes up a level to the academic dean, the same obligations to the faculty member must be followed. The academic dean's decision is final.

Under 10.1B the faculty member must be given notice of the Informal Disciplinary Conference and a chance to be heard. If it escalates to the level of the dean, the dean shall render a decision within 10 school days. If the dean sustains the charges, the dean shall decide the appropriate sanctions.

- 3. Covid-19 Update:** There was a change in policy based on science. We publish metrics, if X happens, we do Y.
- 4. Data Request List:** Be careful what you wish for, you just might get it. OIRA, now called Institutional Research and Data Analytics (IRDA) is compiling those data that should be forthcoming. Questions included the following: (1) Why can't we use MENA as a category? We use IPEDS categories and that is not a category in IPEDS. (2) Why was the SMART Check discontinued? It was discontinued under Dawn Medley. Without the SMART Check, withdrawals of students who receive a mid-term grade of C- or below have increased. One

member inquired whether the SMART Check could be automated so that a student would know the consequences of withdrawal(s) from classes.

The P/N grading will not be a choice for fall 2021 and what would that mean concerning the number of students who will be put on probation. A student may register to take up to 6 classes as P/N. But it must be done when registering for the course. For the COVID semesters (winter 2020, fall 2020, winter 2021 and spring/summer 2021), any P/N grading will not count in the 6 course P/N maximum.

The issue of what should we do with students who have at least 120 credits but less than a 2.0 GPA but at least a C- or 1.67 GPA. What could we do to help them graduate? Perhaps the redesigned Phoenix program could help them.

5. **Update on the Combined Portfolio of Enrollment Management, Academic Student Success, International Programs and Study Abroad:** We need to look at enrollment in a broader sense and not just FTIACs. Lifelong learning must be the focus. There should be a common experience for all students from entry to graduation and beyond. We need to look at our marketing and eliminate duplication.

On the student success side there seems to be a disconnect between central administration and the schools and colleges. We need more coordination and cooperation. A faculty voice is a need and a want. We need to think more strategically and revise our financial aid packaging.

On the international side we are recruiting virtually and are now at pre-pandemic numbers, but not pre-Trump numbers. There has been a change in the amount of time a student can stay in the United States after earning a degree. It used to be one year and is now three years for twenty-two majors. Our international recruiting is primarily at the graduate level, but we are looking at recruiting undergraduate international students.

In the Q&A discussion, it was mentioned that departments would like a list of high school counselors so that they could email marketing materials to them about their major(s). Another member wanted to see the new organizational chart. It is forthcoming. This summer there will be an overnight stay in the dorms for orientation. There is a desire to streamline and institute high impact practices. Ezzeddine wants to eliminate duplication. We want faculty engagement but need better coordination with faculty so that there are students who are interested in their area rather than not.

6. **Changes in BOG Statutes:** We looked at and supported the changes to four BOG statutes:
 - a. **Transfer Credit:** Increase the number of earned credits to be transferred. The student must still earn at least 30 credits at WSU. The 12-credit limit on technical, vocational, and applied credits should be abolished.

- b. Undergraduate certificates:** Allow undergraduate certificates prior to earning a baccalaureate degree to count towards the baccalaureate degree. Reduce the number of credits for a certificate from 15 to 12.
 - c. Withdrawal policy:** The WP, WF, WN should be replaced by a W when a student withdraws during the withdrawal period. Faculty no longer must approve the withdrawal.
 - d. Posthumous degrees:** This applies to deceased and critically ill students. Lessen the requirements to 75% of the total baccalaureate degree.

- 7. Snow Day Policy:** There needs to be better communication from the president and/or the provost. The policy for clinical courses is left up to the dean of the college in charge of the clinical placement makes the decision.

- 8. General Announcements on changes within the Division of Academic Student Affairs and Global Engagement:** APEX and Warrior VIP will be incorporated into a new program called Warrior 360. We will use what we have learned from both programs to make Warrior 360 a more vibrant program. Transfer Credit is leaving the Office of the Registrar and moving to Student Success. Darryl Gardner will now add Federal TRIO to his portfolio and Mark Jackson will move over from APEX to Federal TRIO. Institutional Research and a unit of C&IT will now merge and include data governance, now called Institutional Research and Data Analytics (IRDA). The Student Center Building will now report to the Dean of Students Office except for the retail enterprise and summer conferences. The goal is to break down silos to better serve our students and expand, not reduce, student support. Darryl Gardner and Latonia Garrett (Formerly director of the Student Service Center) will direct Warrior 360. The desire is to use Federal TRIO as a pipeline to college enrollment at WSU. Summer K-12 programs and Math Corps will be part of the expanded pipeline.

- 9. Admissions for Fall 2022:** The update for fall 2022 FTIAC trends: Submitted applications are up 7% (n=15,055), 46% of all applications are test optional (n=6,947), admits are up 5% (n=9,241) but orientation reservations are down 35% and enrollment deposits are also down. Our deposit is \$50 but waived for all students whose Expected Family Contribution is \$5,000 or less. We are also beginning to recruit for fall 2023. We are continuing the Heart of Detroit Pledge and extended the application deadline to April 1. On April 2 we are holding an Admitted Student Day.

- 10. Financial Aid:** We have a new scholarship software program called Scholarship Universe (SU). SU is a scholarship matching tool for admitted WSU students. It connects students with both internal and external scholarships. It will go live this summer. A software training library and tutorial will be created prior to its launching. One advantage is that it

works well with BANNER. Pell grants were increased by \$400 to \$6,895 for maximum Pell, and FAFSA Fridays are back.

FAFSA numbers for admitted students are down. The FAFSA will change for 2024-25 academic year. Expected Family Contribution (EFC) will be changed to Student Aid Index (SAI). Verification is back but so far; less students are being chosen for verification. For 2020-21, 21% of students had to go through verification. So far only 7% of students had to go through that process.

11. Transferring to WSU: Transfer applications are up 3.63% and admits are up 2%. We have an Equity Transfer Initiative with Jackson Community College and Oakland Community College. At Jackson CC we are stressing Business, Public Health, Engineering tech, Criminal Justice, and Mechanical Engineering. We have an Equity Transfer Initiative with Jackson, Oakland, Schoolcraft, and Washtenaw Community Colleges. More will follow. Our three extension centers (ATEC, Schoolcraft and University Center at Macomb) will continue to exist. We are creating Transfer Ambassadors with a Transfer Club, a newsletter to provide transfer students with updates on the transfer process.

12. Student Success—Graduation Rates: We were given the trending graduation rates

Wayne State Graduation Rate Gains 2022

Graduation Rate Gains	2022*	One Year Ago	Two Years Ago	10 Years Ago
Overall	57.4%*	55.8%	51.9%	26.0%
Black Students	36.0%*	34.6%	24.8%	7.6%
Hispanic/Latinx Students	48.4%*	38.4%	35.2%	16.7%
First Gen Students	50.8%*	44.6%	43.0%	18.4%
Low Income Students	51.0%*	47.3%	44.8%	16.1%

*Unofficial based on degrees certified through 3.25.2022. Official graduation rates will be reported in the fall of 2022.

It is still early but the 5-year graduation rates look promising.

13. Data Request List: We received much of what we asked for. What we did not receive was anything dealing with financial aid and scholarships. We only asked for aggregate data not individualized data. Our office of Institutional Research has a new name. Institutional Research and Data Analytics (IRDA). To use the dashboards on the website off campus, one needs a VPN. We report on IPEDS data to the federal government so that is how we categorize what is on the website. The GPA tab includes only those grades earned at Wayne State. One can get an individual student or the cohort GPA.

14. Fee for Using Credit Card to Pay Tuition: The university is charged 2.9% if a student uses a credit card to pay for tuition. We “pass” this charge through to the student. The vendor

charges the student's credit card when it is used to pay tuition. About 25% of students pay by credit card. The cost to the university is about \$1,000,000 if we were to absorb the fee. Personal checks and electronic checks have no fee attached if used to pay tuition. Students should be better educated in financial literacy. The Bursar's Office is working on an RFP with nearby banks to allow students to more easily get a checking account.

15. Block Scheduling: This is also known as First-year Interest Groups (FIGs). This is designed for students who want to build stronger connections to peers who have similar academic interests and programs. For fall 2022 we will have 24 groups each serving 24 – 30 students. Each group is anchored in a Wayne Experience course. The block schedule is only part-time, and students can add courses to become full-time. The block scheduling plan is an opt-in plan. Students must agree to take the entire block. Those students who opt-in will be coded in Banner and appear in the Cohort Tab in STARS. Additional supports include peer mentors, group activities, group tutoring and a dedicated Canvas page for resources and communications. For fall 2023 and beyond there will be a call for proposals to build more interest-based interdisciplinary for living and learning communities.

The Chair would like to thank our guest presenters:

Laurie Clabo	Ahmad Ezzedine	Catherine Kay
Kelly Dormer	Darryl Gardner	James Morrissey
Darin Ellis	Ericka Matthews-Jackson	Michael Quattro

And a very special thanks to Jeff Stoltman who gave his time and expertise on Credentialing for the Future of Higher Education Report.

The Chair would also like to thank the best committee of the Academic Senate:

Pynthia Caffee		
Siobhan Gregory	Cynthia Merritt	Ali Salamey
Michael Horn	Rachel Pawlowski	David Strauss
Barbara Jones	Theresa Perlman	Neelima Thati
Afifi Kadadu	Michele Porter	Jennifer Wareham
Christine Knapp	Shaunna Reevers	mark wenzel
David Merolla	Michele Ronnick	
Respectfully submitted,	Brad Roth	
Naida Simon, Chair		