

Wayne State University
Proceedings of the Student Affairs Committee
February 15, 2012

Present: Chardin Claybourne, Cheryl Dove, Moira Fracassa, Michael Horn, Barbara Jones, Liza Lagman-Sperl, James Martin, Victoria Pardo, Brad Roth, Naida Simon, Kevin Tatulyan, Keith Wadley

Absent With Notice: Avril Genene Holt, Jason Mateika, Robert Reynolds, Michele Ronnick, David Strauss, Mary Width, James Woodyard

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm.

The minutes of January 18, 2012, were approved unanimously.

The speaker today was Matthew McLain from University Advising Center and Office of Military and Veterans Educational Benefits and is the Academic Advisor, VA Certifying Official.

Matt—The University wants to support our veteran students. He is a member of a newly formed committee whose charge is to evaluate and analyze our service to our veteran students. WSU has three support services for these students: (1) VEOB which is a federally funded TRIO program. This program offers remedial support and training; (2) OMVEB which is the first contact with the students. Matt processes veteran benefits for the veteran students and (3) Student Veteran Resource Center which is on the sixth floor of the Student Center Building. The center provides comprehensive support services to this group of students. It came about because of a December 2010 meeting with President Gilmour and Provost Brown. A needs assessment and budget analysis was presented and two months later the Center became a reality. The veteran student do not want to be seen as different, WSU is very veteran friendly but we want to strive to be the best veteran friendly campus. Nationally veteran students have an 87% stop-out rate and a 13% graduation rate; at WSU we have a 50% graduation rate. Most of our veteran students drop out within the first year of attendance. A new needs assessment and analysis is due by June 1, 2012. Currently WSU has 500 veterans enrolled and 350 of them use their VA educational benefits. We also have an Army ROTC unit here. There is a good veteran student organization. Part of the June 1 document will include the following: (1) The Resource Center needs to be larger. Currently half of the space is dedicated to academic support and half as a lounge. It would be better to separate these spaces. (2) Recruitment and Retention: there needs to be a full time academic recruiter. Michigan is fourth in the country in the number of veterans but fifty-third is state spending on veterans with Puerto Rico and Guam outspending us. (3) Formalize the policies that we have.

Contact information:

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Student Success Report:

The Committee saw its charge as looking at the three components of the Report: (1) The New Admissions Standards, (2) The New Transfer Policy and (3) The APEX Program.

1. The New Admission Standards _ The Committee is in favor of the change in the admissions policy. It feels that bringing in better academically prepared students should bring about better retention and graduation results.
2. The New Transfer Policy _ There are concerns about what to do with students who have earned an Associate's Degree with less than a 2.5 grade point average. The degree would carry a MACRAO stamp. What do our MACRAO agreements state? When would each agreement expire and need to be renegotiated? The Committee supports not transferring credit for courses where a C- or below were earned and making the minimum of transferrable credit twenty-four academic credits. The committee also feels that the transfer policy needs to be made clearer.
3. APEX Bridge Program _ The Committee has some questions about the courses in the Bridge Program. The Math sequence should be explored and possibly adapted to best accommodate the different math tracks required for various degree programs. i.e., a course like MAT 1050 is not required for all degrees. A question was raised whether or not the cohort would take all of its courses together during the two or three semesters of the first year of the program or would the students be mixed with other WSU students in these courses. Other members felt that there should be some flexibility depending on the intended major as some of these courses would not fulfill requirements, *e.g.* engineering.
4. Other issues raised _ Several members wanted the appropriate university committee(s) to look at the number of credit hours a program requires for a degree. At one time the maximum requirement for a bachelor's degree was 128 semester hours of credit. It was believed that some degrees now require more than 128 hours of credit.

Old Business

Jim Woodyard sent his report on the Customer Service Survey to the Committee by e-mail prior to the meeting. It is contained below without the four attachments:

1. The committee requested that I obtain the survey forms used in the "Customer Service Survey." Attached are the survey forms developed by the WSU Center for Urban Studies. There are four survey forms attached, namely, the faculty (main campus), medical faculty, staff and student survey forms.
2. I have a meeting scheduled on **February 22nd** with Michael Wright, Chief of Staff and VP for Marketing and Communications. He has been heading the survey for the administration and been asked by President Gilmour to collaborate with the Academic Senate on matters related to the survey. It is my intention during the meeting to suggest procedures; define the activities; discuss the role of the administration; communicate SAC's motion to schedule the survey next

fall (passed at the last meeting); and clarify the funding available for the survey. Please send me your suggestions for topics.

3. The committee members signed up to review the sections of the voluminous report (approximately 430 pages) at the last SAC meeting. It will be quite an undertaking for me sort the report into files containing the areas of interest expressed by the committee members. I decided to hold off doing it until I meet with Michael Wright and have assurance that ALL the administrators are going to buy into the survey and as well as teaming with the Academic Senate.

New Business

The topic of the Grade Appeal Policy was again postponed as the meeting time ran out.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

The next meeting is **Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 1:30 pm in 3339 FAB (Large conference room near the elevators).**