

E. Student Affairs Report

Ms. Ramos, chair, will report on the committee meeting of September 25, 2015

**Student Affairs Committee
Meeting of September 25, 2015**

Minutes

Present: H. Billing, M. Bridges, E. Broner, D. Fetcher, L. Klaben, B. Montgomery, R. Pignatiello, G. Ramos

Guests: D. Abrahamowicz, M. Ashley, T. Bell, D. Bertso, J. Brown, G. Dickstein, G. Doll, D. Finnie, A. Golian, G. Harris, J. Keferl, D. Kimpton, K. Morris, K. Muncie, T. Murray, K. Page, C. Patitu, D. Person, S. Polk, R. Rando, R. Rushing, K. Simpson, T. Sudkamp, C. This, T. Webb

Grace Ramos called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

Vice President's Report

Dr. Dan Abrahamowicz shared updates on student-centered activities taking place at the start of the fall semester, including Move-In Day, Athletics team practices and games, Welcome Weeks, and Homecoming. Homecoming Weekend activities will include a performance by comedian Kevin Hart, sponsored by students and the University Activities Board. Dr. Abrahamowicz shared that the fifth week of the term is a stressful time for students, and this is being observed in the residence halls, Community Standards and Student Conduct, and Counseling and Wellness Services.

He also explained how all Student Affairs departments share a commitment to students and student-centeredness. These departments provide important services that are instrumental to student success, and provide intrinsically valuable educational programs and activities that supplement the classroom with real-life learning experiences. Another important hallmark of the work of Student Affairs is collaboration.

Ms. Kathy Morris and Dr. Carol Patitu presented information on the collaboration between the Student Affairs administrative unit and the Student Affairs in Higher Education (SAHE) master's degree academic program. Key to this program is the distinctive blend of practice and academic preparation.

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs coordinates the graduate assistant matching process, funds several internships, and provides start-up funding for new internship opportunities. Graduate Assistants are placed in numerous departments across campus and at other institutions. Wright State currently employs 67 graduates of the SAHE program.

The program also offers three career tracks—Career Advising, Sports Management, and International Programs—and boasts of international internship collaborations with Anglia Ruskin University in England. Anglia Ruskin is building the first Student Affairs program

in Europe and is modeling its curriculum after Wright State's.

Mr. Tom Webb, Director of the Office of Disability Services, shared information on the collaboration between the Office of the President, the Office of Disability Services, Student Union and Campus Recreation, and the University Honors Program to bring a series of speakers to campus for this year's Presidential Lecture Series, celebrating of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Speakers include Professor Temple Grandin, Former U.S. Senator Tom Harkin, Paralympian Amy Purdy, and Comedian Maysoon Zayid.

Student Government Report

Student Government President Gavin Doll and Student Government Vice President Kayla Muncie provided an update on the initiatives of the Student Government Association (SGA). The organization plans to increase student engagement by initiating a freshman internship program that will allow first year students to play a role in Student Government. A program will be created to promote collaboration between student organizations; and faculty mixers are planned to create opportunities for students and faculty to interact outside of the classroom. Student Government will also work on recognizing student academic achievement through the SGA scholarship, which they hope to change from a payable scholarship to an endowed scholarship.

Updates

Mr. Dan Bertso, Director of Residence Life and Housing, shared fall updates from Residence Life and Housing. The yield on housing applications is up for the fourth consecutive year, reaching 89.7%. Occupancy is up by over 200. New applications are up 2.6%, with a doubling of Valedictorian/Salutatorian and National Merit Scholars. Returning applications are up 8.6%, with returning sophomores, juniors, and seniors up each year since 2013.

This year, a VISTA volunteer will be added to the Graduate Assistant in Residence program to assist with University College's student success initiatives. This builds on last year's success with Graduate Assistants in Residence from the College of Engineering & Computer Science who worked with students on STEM initiatives. Wright State began its first All-You-Care-To-Eat dining option on weekends in The Hangar.

Residence hall students presented on three aspects of residential student programming: Residential Community Association (RCA), African American Residential Caucus (AARC), and Student Weekend Activities Team (SWAT). Ms. Katherine Simpson and Community Director Kate Page shared that RCA plans events and serves as a legislative body for residential students. They worked to initiate the Residence Life Cinema Program, which offers newly released movies to residential students.

Ms. Taylor Belle and Mr. David Person shared that AARC promotes empowerment, excellence, leadership, and scholarship, and works to create flexible programming that is

relevant to students' concerns. They offer workshops, mentoring, and game nights, and have an active social media presence. Ms. Simpson shared that SWAT offers programming for residential students every Friday and Saturday night. Mr. Michael Bridges commended the student groups for their work in building an active social media presence and ensuring that they are creating programming with a message.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Twila Murray