E. **Student Affairs Committee**

Ms. Ramos, chair, will report on the committee meeting of September 16, 2016.
Student Affairs Committee  
Meeting of September 16, 2016  

Minutes  

Present:  W. Montgomery, E. Broner, G. Ramos, S. Fitzpatrick, D. Fecher, J. Large, C. Moore  


Ms. Grace Ramos called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

Vice President’s Report

Dr. Dan Abrahamowicz provided updates on upcoming retirements from Wright State within the Division of Student Affairs. He acknowledged Nancy Beaty, Accounting Clerk for the Student Union (36 years); Joann Black, Administrative Assistant for Athletics (21 years); Robert Stallsworth, Dispatch Center Supervisor for the Police Department (33 years); Valita Wilhoite, Assistant Director of Student Support (25 years); and Roger Wilson, Equipment Manager for Athletics (7 years) for their years of service. Dr. Abrahamowicz also announced his own upcoming retirement after over 20 years of service, along with the retirements of Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Kathy Morris (33 years), and Assistant Vice President for Student Services Simone Polk (20 years).

Dr. Tom Sudkamp announced changes to the structure of the Division of Student Affairs taking effect as of October 1. The Asian and Native American Center, Bolinga Black Cultural Resource Center, Office of LGBTQ Affairs, Women’s Center, Office of Latino Affairs, Veteran and Military Center, and Office of Pre-College Programs will move into Student Affairs. Athletics, the Nutter Center, and the Career Center will move out of Student Affairs. Dr. Gary Dickstein, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, will lead the division as Interim Vice President.

Dr. Sudkamp also announced the creation a Chief Diversity Officer position. This cabinet level position will report directly to the president and will focus on improving the climate for students, faculty, and staff.

Student Government Report

Student Government Association (SGA) President Lukas Wenrick provided updates on SGA’s recent activities and plans for the current year. Of the 13 students who began in the Freshman Intern Program last year, 11 are currently in student leader positions. This year, SGA received 500 applications for freshman internships and positions on committees.
SGA plans to focus on student engagement and school spirit this year. Mr. Wenrick provided an overview of the outreach SGA has conducted through large scale campus events this fall including the Mock Debate, Constitution Day, Fall Fest, and Do the U. SGA has also started producing video campaigns for Wright State and has been active on social media with over 2,500 new followers. SGA plans to conduct numerous surveys to gain information on student concerns.

Updates

Director of Residence Life and Housing Dan Bertsos provided updates on Housing and Residence Life including the 25th Move-In Day event, which was honored with the President’s Award for Excellence this year. Mr. Bertsos also shared new areas of focus including research on generational differences for the incoming class, increased internet bandwidth usage in the residence communities, and the need for various accommodations for gender and disability related issues.

Mr. Bertsos shared that there is an increased demand for themed and interest communities, such as STEM City in Hamilton Hall. STEM City is a collaborative effort in which the colleges provide educational information and programming for students within the residential community. Discussions are underway regarding the possibility of creating themed buildings rather than themed floors.

Dr. Robert Rando, Assistant Vice President for Health and Wellness and Director of Counseling and Wellness Services, discussed Wright State’s current status regarding the state law concerning suicide prevention and mental health education. The State of Ohio requires the university to make contact with all students and provide suicide prevention and mental health resources. The law requires multimedia platforms, cell phone applications, a website with links to state and national resources, and telephone hotlines. State law also mandates a postvention plan regarding how to deal with suicides as part of university policy.

Dr. Rando provided data on suicides and suicide attempts over the years. This semester, 4 students have been hospitalized for suicidal intent to date. Counseling and Wellness Services has reduced the wait time for students to see a psychiatrist by providing psychiatric services on campus rather than referring students to the community. While students are waiting, they receive weekly check-ins from an assigned case manager.

1. Recognition of Dan Abrahamowicz

Ms. Grace Ramos read a resolution expressing the Board’s appreciation for Dr. Dan Abrahamowicz’s service to the university.
RESOLUTION 17-

WHEREAS, Dan Abrahamowicz has faithfully served Wright State University as the Vice President for Student Affairs since August 1996; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abrahamowicz has provided exemplary leadership on behalf of the University over the last twenty years to the Student Affairs Committee for the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abrahamowicz has been a tireless advocate for students and has dedicated his career to the support of students and their success; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abrahamowicz has supported the mission and vision of the university by delivering services and programs that are student-centered and designed to enhance enrollment, increase retention, and encourage academic success while promoting a campus climate that celebrates diversity and enhances the educational, physical, social and emotional well-being of students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abrahamowicz has overseen the operations of the Division of Student Affairs which includes Career Center, Community Standards & Student Conduct, University Police, Residence Life & Housing, Student Activities, Campus Recreation, Intercollegiate Athletics, Student Union, Nutter Center, Disability Services, Student Health Services, Counseling & Wellness, and Student Support Services; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abrahamowicz has collaborated with the College of Education and Human Services to enhance the Student Affairs in Higher Education program by providing teaching, mentoring, internship opportunities, program support, funding for graduate assistants, and sponsorship for students to attend professional conferences; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Abrahamowicz’ student centered vision and leadership have helped shape the future of Wright State and contributed to the foundation that supports the university’s mission; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Wright State University Board of Trustees does hereby express its sincere appreciation and heartfelt commendation to Dan Abrahamowicz for his distinguished 43-year career in Student Affairs and his commitment, service, and leadership on behalf of the university.

I offer this motion:
Do I have a second:
Voice Vote:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Twila Murray