



SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS
Notes of Meeting

Date: Friday, January 12, 2017

Time: 9:45am-10:55am

Room: 209 Assumption Hall

Committee Members: Mr. Chris Baillargeon, Mr. Ryan Flannagan, Dr. Scott Goodwin, Dr. Sean Horton, Dr. Jennifer Johrendt, Ms. Sharon Munro, Dr. Tina Pugliese (chair), Dr. Bill Wellington.

Absent: Ms. Amy Bui, Ms. Bernarda Doctor, Ms. Yosra Elsayed, Ms. Anna Kirby, Mr. Ahmed Khalifa, Ms. Zeina Merheb (co-chair), Dr. Kathy Pfaff (regrets), Dr. Geri Salinitri, Mr. Harshjot Singh Lohat (regrets).

In Attendance: Ryan Kenney (Executive Director, ITS), Austin Roth (GSS Student Advocate); Ms. Renée Wintermute (University Secretary).

As quorum was not reached, the following are the unofficial notes of the meeting.

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was not approved at this time.

2 Minutes of the meeting of November 10, 2017

The minutes were not approved at this time.

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding business

Nothing to report.

Items for Information/Discussion

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Presenter Series

5.5.1 GSS Student Advocate

NOTED:

- The new GSS Student Advocate explained the mandate and priorities of the position. Primarily, the position is about empowering graduate students by working to ensure that they are aware of the policies and procedures in place to help them be successful; by enabling students to self-advocate; by providing a resource person to help graduate students plan and work through the system when issues or concerns are identified. The role focusses more on the steps to reach a resolution, rather than being solution-based.
- The advocate also provides training and orientation to GSS Council members on governance and election policies, and establishing activities and workshops to enhance the student experience.

AGREED:

- Advertising and promoting this position is key to its success. Consideration should be given to presenting to the Student Liaison Subcommittee, and to the Graduate Coordinators group, managed through Graduate Studies.

5.2 Report of the Student Liaison Subcommittee and Co-Chair

No report.

5.3 Report from the International Students Society

No report.

5.4 Student Caucus IT Advisory

NOTED:

- The Executive Director of ITS discussed new developments and updates to Blackboard, eGAS (graduate application system), net tuition billing through the student portal, and the Daily News; progress with the implementation of the new ERP; upgrades to IT infrastructure; the launch of the new survey tool, Qualtrics; and making available the use of Lynda.com (online training on software) to students supported by MAESD.

AGREED:

- In response to a question raised, the Executive Director of ITS will look into whether access to view student grades can remain for Deans and Associate Deans after the grades have been approved.

5.5 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

(See document SC180112-5.5 for more details.)

NOTED:

- The AVP, Student Experience reported on initiatives from the various areas reporting to him, including updates on the Bounce back program (primarily struggling first-year students), the Headstart program, the Flip the Script program (sexual violence awareness training for women), and the alternative Spring Break programs; progress on the mental health strategy and new resources to increase awareness of mental health issues and resiliency among students; improvements to space and security in Student Accessibility Services; and efforts to increase participation in student exchanges.
- Members encouraged continued and more training for frontline staff on how to detect, help, and receive a disclosure of sexual misconduct, in particular training for Associate Deans, Heads, faculty advisors and student leaders should be focus.
- Dramatic Art is building intimacy training into its curriculum.
- The report from the Executive Director of Campus Services (SC180112-5.5) was received for information.

AGREED:

- The student newsletter, published by the Office of Student Experience, should be sent to members of the Associate Deans group.

6 Question period/Other business/Open discussion

6.1 PAWS for Stress

NOTED:

- The Windsor Chapter of Therapeutic Paws is lacking a chapter leader and so the program could not be offered in December. It is hoped that staffing at Therapeutic Paws will be resolved soon and that the events will be offered in April.

7 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:55am.