

9-6-2018

Joint Council on Academic and Student Affairs Meeting : 2018 : 09 : 06 : Minutes

University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Office of the Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.usfsp.edu/council_acad_student_affairs

Recommended Citation

University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Office of the Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs., "Joint Council on Academic and Student Affairs Meeting : 2018 : 09 : 06 : Minutes" (2018). *Council on Academic and Student Affairs*. 24.
https://digital.usfsp.edu/council_acad_student_affairs/24

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of the Regional Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Digital USFSP. It has been accepted for inclusion in Council on Academic and Student Affairs by an authorized administrator of Digital USFSP.



Joint Academic and Student Affairs Leadership
Thursday, September 6, 2018
10:00 – 11:00AM – BAY 220
Minutes

Attendees: Olufunke Fontenot, Patti Helton, Sridhar Sundaram, Allyson Watson, Magali Michael, Cathy Cardwell, Susan Toler, Kaya van Beynen, Jake Diaz, Dwayne Isaacs, Diane McKinstry, Al Gentilini, Lesa Shouse, Erin Dunn, Carolina Nutt

Absent: Gary Patterson, Anita Sahgal

Meeting convened at 10:05AM

1. Welcome and Meeting Purpose

After all introductions were made, Patti said that both Academic Affairs and Student Affairs had a common purpose, which is working together to ensure student success. Getting together to share ideas and projects that each member of this group is working on will provide a deeper insight of what can work to help students achieve their goals.

2. Back to School Debrief (the first few weeks)

- Move-in day was Friday, August 3, which coincided with the Fall 2018 Faculty/Staff Meeting. It was a bit challenging to have these two big events going on at the same time. Some key staff could not attend the meeting because they had to ensure that the move-in occurred in a smooth manner, without major incidents. Last year, move-in day was on a Saturday; however, we had some problems due to the offices being closed. Patti will propose that the Faculty/Staff Meeting be held another day, maybe Thursday. Discussion followed as to the pros and cons of having the meeting moved.

ACTION: Funke and Patti will bring this matter on the next Council Meeting.

- Welcome Week is packed with activities for all the newcomers and returning students. Many of these events conflict with departmental meetings and some classes. For planning purposes, these events should be posted on the university's calendar of events so the colleges and departments can plan their meetings ahead of time. It is apparent that coordination of all events needs to improve. Look at orientation and see if a different format would be helpful. Maybe smaller groups?
- Discussion ensued as to participation in Convocation and Commencement, the two major events of the university. Commencement ceremonies are well attended by faculty and administrators, but now that USFSP has added the summer ceremony, many faculty don't attend because they are not working. The same goes for one of the two Convocation ceremonies. In its recent divisional retreat, Student Affairs had several staff sign up for the two events, which will help Christine Apple, commencement coordinator, and Carolina Nutt, convocation director, plan and organize their events.
- Dwayne said that a group called Campus Partners Events, with participants from all departments, meets every Thursday to plan and discuss upcoming events 2-3 weeks ahead. Academic Affairs and the Registrar's Office do not have representation. It would be very helpful to get them in this group.

3. Current Issues or Concerns

- Now that the semester has started, we have to be prepared for all issues that might affect students; not only physically, but mentally. The Wellness Center is equipped with qualified personnel to support students with disabilities and mental health concerns.
Sri asked if the center had a mental health professional on campus 24/7 to which Patti replied no and that it would be extremely expensive to have such a professional in the residence halls, and she is not aware of anyone in higher education providing mental health professionals in the residence hall, but we do have professional residence life staff in the building.

- Jake added that Housing and Residence Life has one master's level professional live-in staff member per building. There is a total of three graduate student-level staff, who also live-in along with a full complement of RAs. The department has an on-call rotation 7 days a week. Also, the Dean of Students is on-call 7 days a week. The team responds to mental health concerns they observe and refers them to the SOCAT team for a risk assessment. It's important to stress that Students of Concern (SOCAT) is not the same as Student Conduct. Sometimes faculty get confused with these two areas because mental health is not necessarily a student conduct issue, but can lead to one.
- We need to convey faculty of this important information, because we do have the staff they can refer students who show signs of unusual behavior. At the beginning of each semester, Victoria Beltran, assistant director of Prevention Services, reaches out to faculty to request a 5-minute presentation to their students of what the Wellness Center is all about and all the services it offers to students, faculty and staff.

4. 3rd and 4th Year Experiences

What are we doing for these students? Carolina reported that right now the 3rd and 4th year experiences are being accommodated through our transfer programming Initiatives. Up to now, our transfer students have been very receptive to the new services. A transfer advisory board has been created with representatives from all three colleges to allow them to develop what they envision for that specific population.

5. Guidelines for Addressing the Death of a USFSP Community Member

Patti distributed the handout delineating the steps and protocol to follow upon the unfortunate death of either a student, faculty or staff. This document is not policy; it's a working document, which can be revised, if need be. An electronic version will be sent to all.

[Click here](#)

6. Consolidation Updates

Martin has been diligent in apprising the community of the progress of consolidation. Some faculty and staff have been called upon to integrate sub-committees to aid in this endeavor. Patti is co-chair of the CIC Student Success. This sub-committee coordinates all areas dealing with enrollment, planning and management, admissions, retention rates, graduation rates, counseling, career, and student life. By November 5, (our next meeting), she will report on the sub-committee's recommendations, which by this time will be almost finished.

7. Future Agenda Items

To be determined.

8. Other

Patti and Jake were invited by the Provost to attend a meeting, Reimagining Summer at USF. The idea is to present the summer semester with the same energy that spring and fall have. An issue to address is that many faculty do not want to teach in the summer – so how might we provide a schedule advantageous to faculty? USF wants to erase the stigma that summer students are those who couldn't make it in the spring and thus considered as leftovers. Long discussions were held and the end result was that a task force will be formed to do an in-depth study and come up with possible solutions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05AM.

Next meeting: November 5, 2018.

