

Student Commission Meeting
Thursday, February 27, 2020, 2:00-3:00 p.m.
G17/G19 Wadsworth Hall

Present: Daniel Byrne, Lynda Heinonen, John Frischmon, Mia Kemppainen, Gail Kotajarvi-Gerard, Margaret Landsparger, Dan Liebau, Pattie Luokkanen, Cameron Miller, Benjamin Petrie, Zoe Quinn, Melanie Thomas, James Whittaker

Welcome – Daniel

Updates

Food on Campus at Night – Daniel

Daniel reported that he did not have an update at this time but he hopes to have reached out to Dining Services before the next meeting.

Bathroom Hooks in Stalls

Dan commented that Facilities Management's current plan is to install any new hooks in the bathroom stalls at waist height.

Number of Women's Restrooms on Campus/Stocking Feminine Hygiene Products – Dan and Melanie

Dan reported the Facilities Manager had provided a member of the Women's Leadership Council with the number of women's restrooms (90) on campus. They will focus on stocking these restrooms with feminine hygiene products that were received from Kimberly Clark.

Non-Motorized Transportation Working Group Report on Meeting – Daniel

Daniel reported the Non-Motorized survey has closed. They had over 1,000 respondents and received a lot of comments. The committee will use the results from this survey to formulate a master plan and make recommendations.

It was questioned what is the goal of the survey? Daniel commented that they want to assess the current campus environment for bicycles (where we may be lacking, understanding of where people enter/leave campus, most used paths, etc.). They want to use this information to develop the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

New

IRHC Student Satisfaction Survey – James

James reported he is looking for input on a short survey that IRHC is developing. The purpose is to find out what makes living in the halls undesirable and what departments can do to improve the atmosphere. They will be focusing on "wants" over "needs".

They are planning three methods of collecting the data.

- Tabling – Having students at a table asking the survey questions (near Dining Hall exits)

- Have a give-a-way for the students
- QR code on table tents/posters
- Handing out slips of paper with QR code

James commented that they will have questions on the survey that will encourage students to be specific about their concerns/recommendations.

They have received suggestions on how to develop the survey and they include:

- When students are asked the questions make it so no faculty are around so they can be candid
- Short and simple
- Make it so it's convenient and easy to fill out.

James asked for comments/suggestions/recommendations for the survey. They included:

- Include that they are looking for valuable input to help improve the residence halls for future students (this may limit negative comments).
- Stay away from IRHC apparel so that the average student just assumes they are a random student collecting answers, so that their answers are honest.

It was questioned if students use the QR codes and the ones present indicated they did.

When the survey is done and data analyzed, James will bring back the information to the Student Commission.

Methane Smell on Campus – Zoe

Zoe asked if anybody else had noticed a methane smell on campus (near the Husky statue).

Dan commented that it was probably the M&M Foundry by the waterfront. With a north wind the smell can permeate the area around the statue.

Dan did comment that if there is a persistent smell to call 911.

Repairs on Campus – James

James commented that he'd like to be able to see updates on reported repairs. Dan commented that the person who has submitted a Facilities Work Request should get a notification when there is a status change to the request. He will remind the Facilities Manager in Housing to make sure these notifications are going out. Dan commented that there have been a number of retirements so this a good reminder to make sure things are on track.

Dining Hall Carryout – James

James commented that students are upset because they are being reprimanded for taking out food in Tupperware containers but it's okay to request a brown bag lunch. Benjamin commented that this is a cost and food waste issue. One of the students presented commented that when he lived in the residence halls they were only allowed to take a fruit and cookie out of the dining halls. It was questioned if these rules are posted in the dining halls.

Benjamin and James will meet with John Bramble, Manager Dining Services, McNair to discuss this situation.

Director of Housing Auxiliary Operations and Residence Education

It was questioned if the new director Matt Weekley should be invited to join the Student Commission. Lynda will discuss this with Bonnie.

US41 Reconstruction Project – Dan

Dan reported a US41 Reconstruction Project public meeting is scheduled for March 24 at 5:30 p.m. Location is TBD.

Spring Break

There will not be a Student Commission meeting the week of March 12 due to students being on spring break.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2020, 2:00 p.m., MUB, Ballroom A1

2020 Spring Meeting Dates

- Thursday, April 9, 2020, 2:00 p.m., MUB Ballroom A1
- Thursday, April 23, 2020, 2;00 p.m., MUB, Ballroom A1