

Student Commission Meeting
Thursday, March 24, 2016

Present: Donna Beels, Lynda Heinonen, Judy Klutts, Angela Kolehmainen, William Lytle, Carol Makkonen, Margo O'Brien, Travis Pierce Jiongxun Zhang

Don Williams, Director, Counseling Services

Due to some concerns expressed at the February meeting, Don was invited March Student Commission meeting.

Don gave a brief overview on staffing, updates, and upcoming changes to Counseling services:

- Five full-time clinicians
- One Case Manager
- One Nurse Practitioner
 - They works 6 hours a day, three days a week
 - They can prescribe most medications; no stimulants or medical marijuana
- Two Interns
- One graduate student
- One temporary person
- Somebody is always on call – 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

Don reported that due to overwhelming numbers in the 2014-15 semester and the 2015 fall semester, for the first time in the 2016 spring semester, students are limited to seven sessions per semester. Wait times for a first appointment have gone from 12.43 to 6.24 days. He commented that most students seems to be understanding.

He also reported that a satisfaction survey has been sent to students who use their services.

Other changes include:

- Over the last five years they have added two full-time staff
 - Assistant Director
 - Case Manager
- They added a Contract Employee for group meetings
- They submitted a proposal to increase the nurse practitioner's hours from 18 to 24 hours per week
- They have requested funding for continuing education
- They are trying to increase reception area hours
 - Professional staff cover the reception area from 8:00-9:00 am and 4:00-5:00 pm
- Working with Michigan State to hire second year Master's students
- A dietician has been hired to see students for four hours a month
- They have tried to get a psychiatrist but have not been successful

Don asked for questions/comments/suggestions. They included:

- How can the Student Commission help?
 - Student voice
- Is there any charge to students? (No)
- The Student Commission see Counseling Services as an essential part of the University
- Student Commission wants to support them and be on the same team
- Some students have paranoia, how are records handled?
 - Mental health records are totally separate from educational records
 - Unless they are specifically asking for a student's mental health records they will not get them
 - If a student is being interviewed for a federal position, the student would have to disclose they had visited Counseling Services, otherwise the federal government would have no way of knowing
 - Federal agents have to show identification and student's release to get records

Don commented that if you have any other questions or comments, please contact him at dswillia@mtu.edu or at 906-487-2538.

Thoughts from committee:

- Counseling Services does a good job!
- They don't like to have to limit sessions
- There are always there to help
- Their personnel hasn't expanded in proportion to our enrollment
- GSG and USG should express support

Updates

Handshake - TLP

Travis will report when he's touched base with the Handshake contact.

Transportation and Housing Survey – Will

Will reported he has been contacted by the Consumer Products Manufacturing Enterprise. They want to collaborate on this survey with Graduate School.

Will also reported the survey will go out before the end of the semester.

Sustainability on Campus – Will

Will reported he is meeting with Kerri Sleeman next week to discuss how they want to push for sustainability. He will report back.

New

Student Development Complex Ice Rental - Darien

Lynda reported that she had received an email expressing concern that the ice rental rates at the SDC make it hard for the student organizations to be able to afford to rent ice time. Dave Nordstrom provided the following information:

Currently these are the rates for 50 minutes of ice time:

Michigan Tech Student \$135

Non-Michigan Tech Student \$150

Non-Prime Time (6-8AM) \$120

Summer Ice: \$165

Dee Stadium and Houghton County Arena rent ice for \$140 so our student rate is the lowest in the area.

These are the free ice times open to all Michigan Tech students:

Thursdays 8:30-9:50am Open Skating

Mondays & Tuesdays 8:30-9:20am Drop-In Hockey

Sundays 6:30-8:50pm Public Skating

The Ice Arena is basically self-supporting.

Comments included:

- Seems reasonable
- Part of the SDC is auxiliary
- Rinks at Baltic, Hancock, and Dodgeville would be available for students to use
- The student could join intramurals

Will suggested there be follow-up with Darien on this issue.

Cigarette Butts along US41-Wes

Lynda reported that Wes was unable to be at today's meeting and would like to table this agenda item until the April 14th meeting.

CTE (Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy) – Will

Will commented that some students have been bringing up a discussion about CTE in the sports of football, hockey, soccer, and boxing, as it is in the national spotlight. He questioned if the University is going to respond to changes and research about traumatic brain injuries. He reported that graduate students would like to see a local discussion.

Summer Meetings

It was questioned if the Student Commission meets in the summer. Lynda reported that she schedules meetings for June and August but usually ends up canceling them because there are not any agenda items that warrant meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, at 2:00 pm in Wadsworth Hall, G17/G19. At this meeting it will be decided if the Student Commission should meet on April 28.

Spring Meeting Dates

- Thursday, April 28, 2016, 2:00 pm, MUB, Ballroom A1