

Student Commission Meeting
Thursday, January 26, 2017

Present: Jonathan Davey, Marc Geborkoff, Lynda Heinonen, Joseph Heltsley, Angie Kohlemainen, Bobby Lawrence, Erin Matas, Carol McCullah, Kyle McGurk, Travis Pierce, Lori Weir, Justin Zhang

Welcome – Justin

Updates

Town Hall Meetings

No update. Will return to agenda if it moves forward.

Skate Board/Long Board Rack – Kyle

It was reported that Jacob and Kerri Sleeman have met to discuss. Kyle has designed a rack and they are also looking at designs on-line which range from \$200 - \$2,000.

It was questioned who was going to be responsible for purchasing the racks. This is still undecided.

Facilities Management has a list of the potential locations and Occupational Safety and Health Services is reviewing for potential code violations for each site.

There was discussion if racks should be located inside or outside of the building and the consensus was that it would be better if they were placed outside. The Library would like to get them as soon as possible.

Textbooks – Erin

Erin reported that Professor Kerfoot is chairing the Adhoc Senate Committee and they are working on having representation from the three groups interested in this issue.

- 1) Adhoc Senate Committee – textbooks/how instructors use them in their courses
- 2) Auxiliary – what are other Universities doing?
- 3) Josh – textbook cache

The group will meet on February 9. One of the topics of discussion will be how they can get faculty to use alternative forms of textbooks.

Laptop Initiative

The committee spoke at length regarding the issue of Engineering Fundamentals requiring first-year students to purchase a laptop.

Some concerns/questions included:

- Is this a first step in the removing labs?
- Cost – purchasing laptop plus a technology surcharge
- Misuse of laptops in classes
- This needs to be communicated properly to students
- There are not a lot of good repair places in the local area
- How will they participate in class if their laptop isn't functioning
- What do you do about data loss?
- How will it affect Financial Aid?

Plusses included:

- Students have a better understanding of material when they use their own laptop
- Quantitative data

Wads Annex – Travis

Travis reported that Dr. Wayne Pennington and Dr. Jon Sitcklen are meeting with IRHC on January 30 to discuss Engineering Fundamentals using the Wads Annex for a computer lab. Travis commented that it will be up to the students to determine if they want to give up their residential space to them.

Contract Holder – Travis

Travis reported that he has a student developing an agreement that students could have with each other (not the University). Once it complete it will be reviewed by the University's lawyer. This could possibly be used by the summer.

Travis reported that the current model used for contract holders (one contract/one contract holder) is approximately 7-8 years old. It would be up to students to initiate a change.

New Items

Campus Housing – Quiet Hours – Justin

Justin questioned if Housing and Res Life enforces "Quiet Hours" at Daniell Heights. Travis commented that a number of years ago the residents decided they did not want to have Community Assistants on staff but rather used the funding saved for better snow removal (Facilities was hired). The residents would police themselves in regards to noise. If talking with neighbors does not work, they can contact Public Safety or the Housing office. Travis commented that this can be revisited if the students would like to do so.

Justin questioned the number of complaints that have been received so far this spring semester. Marc reported that he will get those numbers to him.

Both USG and GSG will discuss these two issues with their respective groups; contract holder and campus housing quiet hours.

Presentation – History of Prince’s Point – Kyle

Kyle reported that there will be a History of Prince’s Point presentation on Thursday, February 16 at 6:00 pm. The location needs to be confirmed. Kyle commented that this presentation will be more in-depth than the one that was presented to the Student Commission. After the presentation there will be workshop to determine what students want for the area.

The goal of the presentation is to develop a group of students who are passionate about the development and upkeep of Prince’s Point.

USG Student Affairs Committee – Kyle

Kyle distributed the USG Student Affairs Committee weekly update for the committee review.

Upper Daniell Heights Printer – Justin

Justin questioned if the printer had been installed in Daniell Heights. Travis reported that there is a printer installed in the Activity Room in Upper Daniell Heights. IT and Housing and Res Life split the cost.

Centralized Funding for Cultural Events – Justin

Justin commented that the cultural events on campus are always looking for funding beyond what GSG or USG can provide and questioned where these students could be referred to.

Suggestions included:

- IPS
- CDI
- President’s Office
- Student Affairs and Advancement
- Housing and Res Life

It was commented that these groups need to determine if they are seeking a partnership with departments or just funding.

It was recommended that Justin speak to Kellie Raffelli, Director, CDI to discuss the idea of centralized funding for cultural events.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 23, at 2:00 pm in Ballroom A1, MUB.