
MC GOVERNANCE

Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Council

November 25, 2019

1:30 pm – 3:30 p.m.

Student Center (ST) 301

Attendees

- Members present: Shelly Caldwell Bennett, Alice Boatman, Diego Hernandez, Joel Levine, Dianna Matthews, Brad Stewart, Miriam Simon, students: Lauren Favre & Wendy Rodriguez;
- Quests present: Kristen Roe & Emmilee Racek from MC Compliance
- Full Time Faculty Alternate: Charmaine Weston

Call to Order: Vice Chair Shelly Caldwell Bennett called meeting to order at 1:30 pm

Approval of Agenda: Agenda was approved as written. Minutes from October 14, 2019 approved without full name of quest.

Constituent Concerns

- Miriam: presented from two faculty concerns about the expanded powers of campus security (use of collapsible batons, vests, pepper spray & other items allowed to carry); there is concern about the seeming inability or lack of desire to de-escalate situations with students. She shared an experience in which she had called security about classroom management issue and believed that the security staff did not handle it well creating more agitation for student and made situation worse.
- Diego: presented concerns from two faculty about safety & security officers, concerns on accountability and possible use of force. Also concerns about ability to address issues with DSS students outside of classroom management, will they remain calm and de-escalate situation, will there be appropriate training to handle students. Question on the data to support change in practice for safety & security officers
- Diego: emergency announcement board in out of service in P3.
- Diego: concerns about the announcements in the men's restrooms, above the urinals on female breast cancer and self-breast exams; the announcements were poorly written with errors. Question if Student Life researched the stats and if it was more appropriate to have information on testicular cancer in the men's restrooms due to relevance

Provost's Report

- Emergency announcement should be reported to Ali Fadi.

-
- Reminder that there is three weeks to end of semester, be on alert of stressful behaviors by students; remember to be kind and extend some flexibility in addressing issues; also maintain proper perspective of issues when processing failures; Dr. Pollard's focus on "loving our students to success"
 - Encourage all to use the "hot line" for issues related to closure of parking lot by Falcon Hall, parking issues, fence concerns, etc; continued asbestos abatement process for Science South and Falcon Hall
 - Background on the changes for the Safety & Security staff – the College is in an urban environment and the crime elements are present requiring caution to protect all; precautions were taken to ensure the best hires for the position; there were listening forums for current employees on each campus; official name for the new position is "Special Police Officer" – goal is public safety; required regulated training of 280 hours at CCBC; 4 trained officers for the College (must have clean record and not considered if any reported issue or evidence of inappropriate behavior) to cover 3 shifts; the officers will not have weapons but additional equipment (pepper spray & baton) with ability to detain people performing criminal acts; the Montgomery County Police Department & Takoma Park Police Department will be contacted
 - Acknowledgement of the emergency announcement sent in error (human mistake); please note that if announcement contains "insert campus" then it is not real

Compliance Office Presentation

Kristen Roe and Emmilee Racek presentation on the expectations and current guidelines for College employees, fostering ethical culture. Christopher Moy also noted to address student concerns when other avenues have not resolved the issue – should follow the chain on communication (faculty, chair, dean, etc); all should review Policy 3007

Report on Goals (post individual group meeting)

- Goal 1: Community relations - Joel & Wendy reported of plan for community event between TP/SS campus and the Takoma Park community; met with Karla Silvestre to discuss event; celebrating 74 years as neighbors and working together; plan is week celebration 5/4-8/20, with speaker on 5/6/20; to use the Commons 211, also courtyard area – need funding.
- Goal 2: Improving the image of TP/SS campus – Alice, Diego, Miriam, & Lauren reported, creating a positive image, PSA slogan, highlight campus pride, getting T-shirts, there may be an avenue to present on the equity summit on 4/1 on Germantown campus which has focus on disparities and inequities; to get the Student Senate involved.

-
- Goal 3: focus on African American males – Shelly & Dianna reported on having 3 different potential speakers (Aaron Jenkins, Bobby Manning or George Fraser), not sure of format - panel or speaker; Aaron Jenkins has presented at MC before and was well received by students; must assess date options for spring one day event.

Chair's Report

- Possible invitation to Steve Drummond to meeting in February
- Discussion on meeting schedule for January 13, 2020; preference is to change date; agreed on February 3, 2020

Announcements:

- Lauren: is not able to return in the spring, will find a replacement

Next Meeting: February 3, 2020 (changed from January 13,2020)

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dianna Matthews, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Council Secretary