Meeting Minutes
Student Affairs Committee
October 23rd, 2017

Meeting called to order at 3:10PM

Attendance
Senator-at-Large Getz
Senator Agaoli
Professor Dippel
Professor Outlaw
SGA President Cinquemani
Senator-at-Large Senderowicz
Dean Pertuz
Senator Wong

I. Approval of Minutes from October 5, 2017
   a. Dean Pertuz moves to pass the committee minutes
      i. Motion is seconded
      ii. Passes Unanimously

II. Senator Reports
   a. Pako
      i. Counseling Center Initiative
         1. Met with Rita and Deandra to talk about the work they’re doing with the counseling center
         2. Ultimately, based on that and the conversation with Dr. Guttmann, there isn’t much to really improve with aside from actually spreading awareness about the Saltzman move to the Health and Wellness Center area
         3. It’s on the website but not enough people check that so right now Pako wants to work with Dr. Guttmann to brainstorm ways to advertise the new move
         4. Maybe hofcast, poster on the unispan
         5. Rita in reply to Pako: Chelsea Tomasso found out that you’re allowed to change the banner advertisement on the bus from the Hofstra shuttle for a fee, $20 a banner
         6. Maybe use Lib/Rep area and turn it into something like a wellness garden or something for people to destress and actually use
      ii. UAAC Report
         1. University 1
            a. University 1 - program for students with academic probation, have warnings, or struggling academically
               i. This program isn’t working and is not making a difference, doesn’t really affect whether or not student will perform better
               ii. They were considering disbanding the
program entirely for a moment but they tabled the issue because lack of data from new program and don’t want to cut it for the students who it’s actually helping

iii. New program called Connect will eventually replace University 1
   1. Purpose is to dive deep on data and get reports so they can make connections by classes you take so they know when to intervene
   2. Holly (person who is running University 1 currently) might not continue it in the next semester because she might be stepping down

iv. Gaby: is this program run through CAE?
   Not sure.

2. Mid-Semester Assessment Policy
   a. Faculty (teacher’s union) filed a grievance against this.
   b. Matter is going to be settled behind closed doors
   c. Pako’s source said to get a word into the Provost, Gail Simmons, and ask her to include us in the discussion because we are ultimately the ones that would be affected
   d. Mostly debate between teachers union, provost and rest of the faculty
   e. It was described that students don’t have a say
   f. Amanda: how many of you have received a MSA?
      i. Chris: October 20th was the deadline
      ii. it went out immediately and only had one student who was struggling and he got in touch with Chris immediately
   g. Sofia: have you asked faculty who hasn’t submitted why they have not?
      i. Pako: the way we originally submitted it was faculty either tell the student to 1) get in touch with them because it’s a concern or 2) you’re doing fine so it’s at the student’s discretion to go speak to the faculty member
      ii. Now I don’t really know what happened halfway through, he thinks there is a form
      iii. Rita: the form shows you if you’re doing fine
   h. Amanda: how do we let students know where to find your report if they can’t find it?
      i. Rita: an email was sent out about this issue,
It tells you when the professor submitted it and if you are at risk
ii. I think this is a great thing to have and I wish I had that as an undergrad
iii. Rita: it was due before a lot of midterms were graded so if you failed the midterm it could still say that you’re not at risk even though you may be at risk and you can’t go back and edit it
iv. Pako: the proposal from last year said it should be submitted before week 7
v. Amanda: we need to take into consideration that some professors don’t give assessments before week 7 so you cannot give a true answer about being at risk
   i. Sofia: if a student is a no show or just barely shows up, I would think you would have some sort of conversation
   j. Amanda: was there something in place for professors before this?
      i. Sofia: Reach Program

b. Amanda’s Report
   i. Informal survey on how to be more inclusive for grad students
   ii. They don’t seem to have the time to be involved and they want to have something closer related to their program, graduate student organization (like SGA) would not be feasible
   iii. Focus on doing more networking events and programming versus involvement in clubs/organizations
   iv. Stan Cherian said that OSLE is not taking any kind of applications for new graduate organizations
      1. Dominique: are you talking about all grad students or just in certain schools?
         a. Because a lot of organizations have a lot of funding but they don’t really know what to do. maybe we can pick a lot of organizations from each school and have them collaborate on something and bring together what’s already there
         b. I’m an advisor. Towards the end of the year they’re looking for things to do
   v. Grad students are very interested in hearing from speakers
   vi. Rather than having some type of activity, they want an educational aspect about it
      1. Chris: figure out which groups would be most interested in the speaker and get a specialized speakers

c. Antonio’s Report
   i. Tabling the news and information access for students act to focus
on current legislation

d. Gaby’s Report
   i. Also did an informal survey around business students to see how they would feel being more involved and got the same results as Amanda
   ii. Programming is the best thing we can do to make students feel included
   iii. Rita: what exactly did you poll about?
        1. What kind of events or activities would you want to be involved with on campus
   iv. Rita: if you guys want to do an informal poll to see if grad students would be interested in attending undergrad student events and you want to let me know maybe we can work something out in terms of logistics
   v. Going to meet with Amanda to talk about what we would like to see and write solid questions to ask an filter that through Rita so we’re all on the same page.

e. Rita’s Report
   i. Day of Dialogue, all day on Wednesday
      1. IFSC, RHA, interfaith center, CCE, to bring the Defamation Experience on campus, interactive diversity training
      2. Trial where this woman gets accused and countersues him for demotion
      3. Audience is the jury
      4. Break up into small groups, a lot of reflection and opens you up to different perspectives
   ii. Week of programming events
      1. 6:30PM Back to SC dining room
      2. Paired up with someone from a different culture, and you’re given a cultural meal and discussion questions
      3. Different ways to build connections between people
      4. Hot coffee in student center - “facts your history teacher never told you”
      5. Help expose people to different culture as part of expanding the dialogue on campus
   iii. Advertising the NY Times -> subscriptions for free

f. Dean of Student’s Report
   i. Dean of Students spotlight on different things
      1. First one: Adopt A Dream
      2. They built a little playground
      3. Feature really cool things that are going on
      4. It’s on the Student Affairs blog, won’t limit it with a frequency
   ii. Halloween safety message is going out tomorrow
      1. Be safe
2. Be mindful of neighbors

iii. Dining Services
   1. Halal meals will be available soon near the Asian cuisine section and anything in the salad bar is going to be halal meat
   2. MSA have been asking and advocating

iv. Hofstra Celebrates the Holidays
   1. Look at interfaith offerings
   2. No one in the interfaith gets paid by Hofstra, they’re all a volunteer staff
   3. Has to look into what other universities do, some places just hire a director of campus ministry that would be paid
   4. Chris: what about providing a listing of people in the area as a local resource
      a. Wants to create robust brochure of where to go
   5. Catholic church gives us a campus minister

III. New Business
   a. Amanda:
      i. Grad assistant meetings, a student requested trigger warnings at title 9 training sessions
      ii. A student walked in and immediately walked out, it needs to be labeled or some sort of sign
         1. Sofia: bring it to Allison (title IX officer)
   b. Antonio
      i. Campus Minimum Wage Increase for Student Employees Act of 2017
         1. For this to go through, he needs full support and we all need to be united
         2. We are leaving students behind and i do not take pride in that
         3. Will permit the creation of the task force to negotiate the minimum wage
            a. First part of the plan:
               i. Enactment of this which means we will approve the minimum wage inquiries
               ii. Negotiations will make it easier rather than just a flat amount
               iii. Want to change the name of federal work study
            b. Wants to meet in mid-April for the negotiations and the task force will consist of 12 members
               i. 5 people from the Hofstra administration and it will be confirmed by the Senate
               ii. 7 students including him, Rita, and Carissa
            c. Goal is to not leave not having made a difference
            d. Lowest he has seen for the minimum wage is $8.25
and we’re going to work through that
e. Task force approved by the senate will have final say on this so there an be no further intervention
f. Sofia:
   i. What amount would you be looking for?
   ii. Antonio: state or local amount, so up to $10 an hour
   iii. Have to add to increase budget overall for every department but if the minimum wage increases, you have to hire less students and then students can potentially out of a job
iv. Rita:
   1. We have no say in how much we receive from the federal government
   2. Set amount of money a school receives from the federal government
   3. Federal work study pot has gone down based on enrollment
v. Amanda/Pako:
   1. Is this federal work study or just all student employees?
   2. Answer: general student employees
vi. We were all asked to cut budgets by 3% due to lower enrollment numbers
vii. Amanda: if this is passed through, how does this go to the floor?
   1. Pako: Carissa will present it as a bill and the entire Senate gets a chance to debate it and vote on it (majority rules), then goes to the faculty senate (majority rules)
g. Contingency measure: if this passes, but they do not follow through, they will have to send out a mass email saying why they didn’t pass it and then have a town hall explaining why they do not want to raise the minimum wage
h. Rita:
   i. If the bill passes, the logistics of how it will be funded should probably be decided by the task force.
   ii. In terms of setting up an additional fund, how hard would it be to create an additional scholarship fund and solicit donations?
   iii. Sofia: ask office of development to solicit donations and earmark those funds, ask finance about the formula for federal work
study
iv. Rita: will you be able to find out if you can change the name?
   i. Antonio: i will find out.
i. Antonio wants it to get it started in fall 2018
j. Chris: are there a lot of jobs on campus that are going unfilled because they don’t want this federal minimum wage?
   i. Antonio: from what I’ve heard, this hasn’t been an issue.
k. If you have to go off campus to get a job, it’s going to pay money in terms of gas, a bus, a car, etc.
l. This primarily affects students on campus who feel jobs on campus are convenient, some people don’t have cars
m. Many of the on campus jobs, they can do their homework where they go to work in the mall for instance
n. International students
   i. Amanda: their only option is to work on campus according to their visa

IV. Adjournment
   a. Senator Getz moves to adjourn the meeting
      i. Motion is seconded
      ii. Motion is passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 4:14PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Chair Protempore Gaby Senderowicz