Student Life Committee

April 18, 2013

TO: University of Delaware Faculty Senate

FROM: Mark S. Parcells, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on Student Life

RE: Annual Faculty Senate Committee on Student Life Report

The Faculty Senate Committee on Student Life met this academic year (2012 - 2013) a total of (5) times (September, October, January, March and April) to review and discuss Residence Life program plans, program implementation, policy wording changes, and procedural modifications affecting the implementation of existing policies. Specifically, this year our committee:

- Provided the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate with Information Items detailing:
  - Procedural changes to the Medical Amnesty Protocol (http://www.udel.edu/amnesty/)
  - Wording changes and additions to the Code of Student Conduct and Student Guide to University Policies (presented to the Faculty Senate at the April 2013 Meeting)

- Discussed, modified and approved the proposed ban on the selling or distribution of class notes online

- Approved and Forwarded FY 2013 – 2014 First Year and Upper Class Program Plans for approval by the Faculty Senate; (Approved at the April 2013 Faculty Senate Meeting)

- Discussed initiatives dealing with moving towards a Tobacco-Free Campus, as well as other concerns regarding student health and safety

As of this report, we have not received the survey data regarding the 2012 - 2013 Residence Hall programs (these data are compiled in May), but will include our assessment of these data in our 2014 Annual Report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark S. Parcells, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on Student Life
Coordinating Committee on Education

This year, as every year, the Senate Coordinating Committee on Education reviewed all proposals stemming from the Committee on Undergraduate Studies and the Committee on Graduate Studies, which usually amounts to the bulk of Senate business throughout the year. In addition to that, CCE took upon itself to consider the university's policies on online education. A new CCE policy was passed for the Faculty Handbook on the Use of Innovative Technology and Online Course Formats. CCE also has been working on an additional policy concerning student enrollments in online courses and another policy concerning review of non-credit certificate programs, such as those offered by the Division of Professional and Continuing Studies.

Faculty Senate Committee on Student and Faculty Honors
2012-2013 Annual Report

The University’s Faculty Senate Committee on Student and Faculty Honors met six times during the 2012-2013 academic year. Working with the University’s Office of Communications and Marketing, the committee advertised the excellence awards on the University’s social media websites in addition to our usual student, faculty and staff emails and posts on UD Daily. This resulted more than a 10% increase in nominations. The Committee awarded 4 teaching awards, 4 advising and mentoring awards and 3 teaching assistants awards. There were 5 candidates who submitted dossiers for the Alison award. The committee will meet on May 3 to select the recipient of the Alison award.

Report to the University Senate for Academic Year 2012-13

Research Committee

Stuart J. Kaufman, Chairperson

April, 2013

In keeping with past practice, the Research Committee focused its efforts in 2012-13 on issues related to the General University Research (GUR) grant program. Most members were new to the Committee, with only three of nine members having served in 2011-12. The Committee met once in the fall to discuss procedures and the timetable for the review of GUR proposals, and also cooperated with the Research Office in fall events promoting awareness of the GUR program. At one of these events, the October 2012 award celebration organized by the Research Office, GUR recipients from the 2011-12 funding cycle gave brief presentations of their work, demonstrating the value of the GUR program in promoting research all across the University.

As of the December deadline, the Research Office had received 24 completed proposals for GUR grants from five different colleges, with the majority of proposals coming from the
College of Arts and Sciences. In February, Committee members reviewed the GUR proposals. We met on March 4, 2013, to decide on funding recommendations to be made to Charlie Riordan, the Vice Provost for Research and a member of the Committee. Ultimately, 19 proposals were funded for a combined total of $113,241. The average award size was thus approximately $5960.

The Committee found that participation in the GUR process was informative, giving members familiarity with a broad swath of the diverse types of research ongoing on at the University of Delaware. We also discussed additional issues to consider for our 2013-14 agenda.

To: Faculty Senate

From: Julie Wilgen, Chair, International Studies Committee

Re: Annual Report

Date: April 18, 2013

The International Studies Committee had no formal meetings during the 2012-2013 academic year.

However, several questions came up through phone calls and emails to the Committee Chair from faculty directors of various study abroad programs about budgets, procedures, student behavior, graduate and undergrad TA’s, etc.

I was able to support the previous communication that the faculty directors had had from their IGS program coordinators and confirm consistency across programs.

Academic Appeals Committee

4/18/13

To the Faculty Senate;

The Faculty Senate Grievance Committee conducted no business this academic year as no cases were brought before us.

Sincerely;
Gary Stephen Allison
Chairperson – Faculty Senate Grievance Committee
Annual Report of the Faculty Senate Committee on
Faculty Welfare and Privileges

During the past academic year, the Welfare and Privileges Committee received preliminary complaints from two separate faculty members. As prescribed by the Committee’s Guidelines, a mediator who was not a member of the Committee was appointed to attempt to mediate each complaint. Each complaint utilized a different mediator.

In the case of the first complaint, mediation was unsuccessful. As a result, the Committee accepted the faculty member’s formal complaint. In accordance with the Guidelines, a Hearing Panel was convened and a formal hearing was conducted. All of the steps involved in this hearing were conducted with complete adherence to the Committee’s Guidelines. At the conclusion of this hearing, the Hearing Panel discussed the information that had been presented, came to a unanimous decision on the items requested by the complainant, and communicated the Panel’s recommendations to the Interim Provost.

In the second case, mediation was almost complete when the Committee was informed that the complainant would not be employed by the University in the Fall of 2013. Because the requests for relief made by the complainant could not be implemented until after that date, this faculty member’s complaint became moot.

Report of the Faculty Senate Committee on General Education 2012-2013
Submitted by Karen Stein, Chair

This year, the emphasis of the Faculty Senate Committee on General Education was on soliciting feedback from members of the University community regarding their ideas and viewpoints of essential general education skills for undergraduates. The Committee met several times during Fall 2012 to finalize a powerpoint presentation that committee members could individualize and present to their respective audiences. The powerpoint basically explained why the need to re-visit and re-envision our general education program, desirable characteristics of a general education program, and set forth four questions to elicit discussion and the sharing of ideas:

1. What aspirations do we have for all our undergraduate students, regardless of discipline?
2. What can and should be the distinguishing characteristics of a UD education for all students?
3. What should we ask all our students to do to exhibit their mastery of the goals we’ve set for them?
4. How do we seriously and consistently assess our (and our students’) progress?

A presentation was made to the Faculty Senate in October 2012. The Committee did not formally meet in Spring 2013, as it was the responsibility of committee members to solicit ideas and viewpoints from their own constituencies during the spring semester. Additionally, in April 2013, a campus-wide Open Meeting for the discussion and sharing of ideas regarding re-envisioning General Education at UD was held.