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Steering Committee

Campus Governance

4-21-2014

Steering minutes 04/21/2014

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Recommended Citation

Steering Committee, "Steering minutes 04/21/2014" (2014). *Steering Committee*. 15.
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Steering Committee Meeting
April 21, 2014

Present: Tammy Berberi, Jacquie Johnson, Jennifer Herrmann, Dave Swenson, Hazen Fairbanks, Sheri Breen, Matt Senger, Janet Ericksen

Minutes from March 25, 2014 meeting were approved.

Campus Assembly agenda for April 29, 2014 meeting

The committee walked through the assembly agenda. Dave reported that the Student Affairs Committee does not feel strongly that the gender-neutral housing policy needs to come back for action because the proposal only impacts one office and not the entire campus. He added that policies that only affect the Office of Residential Life are typically not brought forward to the assembly. Jacquie noted that she stated at the last assembly meeting that this would be brought back for a vote. If it not brought back for a vote, Sheri was concerned that the campus community might view this as a fundamental administrative shift. It was determined that as chair of the Steering Committee, Tammy would explain that this proposal is something ORL could simply implement but given various levels of misunderstanding that may have taken place, the Steering Committee thought it would be a good step to affirm the proposal and empower ORL to pilot the program.

Given that there may be some concerns about the WLA proposal, the Steering Committee agreed to separate the WLA proposal from the rest of the course proposals and have two separate votes.

The committee also discussed the request from the Academic Support Services Committee to amend the by-laws. Tammy noted that we have been using the new Constitution for five years and there may be other gaps in the by-laws that need to be addressed. It was agreed that Tammy would explain that the Steering Committee has received a request to amend the by-laws but thought this might be a good time for committee chairs to engage in a conversation to review the Constitution and By-laws. A working group will be formed and will invite suggestions with a deadline of September 15.

The Steering Committee is anticipating some discussion about the Policy on Student Leadership Eligibility. Jacquie will note that the proposal is grounded in principles that we are hoping to advance and emphasize the priority of academic progress in good standing and the importance of student engagement.

Committee website discussion

Matt reported that technical group has been meeting to address technical accessibility and instruction. The group would like to make a presentation but they are not sure when or where

they should present their work. There is some urgency because faculty are already preparing their courses for next fall. If time allows on the assembly agenda, Matt will make an announcement that the technical group is available to help with accessibility and instruction.

Tammy mentioned that Matt has put together a list of the committee websites that can be found at www.morris.umn.edu. Some of the committees are defunct and a question has come up about who owns committee websites. Do they need to be archived or are they just removed? Additionally, some were identified in the old Constitution but are not in the new Constitution. Tammy, Jen and Matt will meet during the summer to create some guidelines for the committee websites.

Adjourned at 4:40 pm.