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Student Affairs minutes 11/08/2007

Student Affairs Committee

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UMM Student Services Committee
Minutes – 11/08/07

Present: Solomon Gashaw, Tim Grove, Joe Alia, Corey Phelps, Dave Swenson, Sara Haugen, Donavon Cawley, Brittany Jablonsky, Ashley Gaschk, Adam Olson, Katie Brokaw

Absent: Michael Eble, Tracy Otten, Carla Riley, Mary Zosel

Guests: Sandy Olson-Loy

I. Student Behavior Committee (SBC) – Review of 2006-2007 Annual Report

The committee reviewed the report submitted by Jon Anderson, chair, and Henry Fulda, secretary. Sandy Olson-Loy said that Jon Anderson and/or co-secretary Julie Phelps would be happy to come to a Student Services Committee meeting to share a wrap-up of the last four years of the committee's work in an effort to educate the broader campus community. The work of the committee must remain a confidential process with few details shared. This need for privacy can mislead some in the campus community to wonder if incidents are being covered up. Also, students don't always understand that their behavior may result in serious consequences through the powers granted to the SBC by the Regents.

The annual report was accepted as presented.

II. New Business

a) Student listserv

Dave Swenson informed the committee of some problems with the current student listservs. He would like the committee to consider what direction UMM should go in the future with these communication tools.

There are two student listservs currently in use: ummofficial, a vehicle for official announcements that requires mandatory membership for all students; and ummstudents, from which students can choose to opt out. UMMofficial is strictly moderated and is for official communication only. UMMstudents is moderated only from the perspective of campus policy violations, including ethics in computing policies. This listserv cannot be used for personal profit.

Adam Olson and Donavon Cawley informed the SSC that MCSA Exec had already been considering this issue. Cawley said they were interested in organizing a student forum at which students could discuss the listservs. Cawley would like to hear from students what services it provides, suggestions for alternative methods for offering the same services, etc. He noted that MCSA is not interested in just handing down a policy, but in hearing from students what they need and want in communication tools.

Sandy Olson-Loy asked if there was a method in which we could tally how many messages come through each list per week. There is a concern that information

critical to academic and life success at UMM is deleted by students overwhelmed by too many messages. This information would be helpful as UMM considers this issue and other potential methods of communication. Dave Swenson will tally the number of messages that pass through the moderators. Messages from faculty members automatically bypass the moderator, so they would not be included in the count.

MCSA will organize a student forum and bring recommendations back to Student Services Committee.

b) Student Organization Constitutions

Dave Swenson noted that he had emailed two student organization constitutions to the committee for their review. He requested committee members to review the constitutions and get feedback to him by Monday, November 12. He would then connect with the student leaders and hope to have the constitutions ready for a vote by SSC at the next meeting.

c) Green Prairie Living and Learning Community

Olson-Loy talked about the plans for a green residence hall by fall of 2009. The green residence hall committee will be seeking input from the campus community as to ideas and input for the building's design and future use. They will probably be seeking input from SSC.

d) Student Engagement Planner and Portfolio

UMM will be piloting the portfolio section of this project this year. The portfolio will enable students to document their learning that occurs outside the classroom. The documentation will be electronically stored, with each student granted 5 GB of space available for life. The portfolio will also enable students to have access to their important documents no matter where they are, such as passport copies when students are studying abroad. Dave Swenson will demonstrate this tool to the SSC at the next meeting.

III. Old Business

a) Subcommittees

Bridget Joos has agreed to serve as chair of the Health Services Committee. Olson-Loy said it will be an interesting year for the committee. The 2007 College Health Summit will take place this fall. UMM was one of 14 Minnesota colleges and universities that participated in the Boynton Health Service College Student Health survey. 58% of UMM students invited did participate in the study, and UMM results were more positive than any other campus surveyed. Boynton representatives may be able to come out to spend a day at UMM to discuss the reports and potential UMM programming.

Joe Alia agreed to serve as chair of the Student Employment Committee again this year. A suggestion was made that campus departments be contacted to see how the tiered pay rates have impacted various offices. Olson-Loy asked the SSC members if they had suggestions of other students or faculty that were not currently involved that

might be interested in serving on a committee. Adam and Donovan offered to come up with recommendations, which they will e-mail to SSC.

IV. Adjourned