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Student Affairs minutes 10/28/1998

Student Affairs Committee

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UMM Student Services Committee
Minutes -- 10/28/98

Present: Jill Farris, Gary McGrath, Shannon Hodges, Katherine Benson,
Joe Timmerman, Sandy Olson-Loy, Sara Haugen, Vivian Heltemes,
Nancy Mooney, Michael Snowden, Amanda Spielman, Christy Kolle,
Rita Frahm, and LeAnn Dean

Guest: Gary McGrath

The meeting was called to order at 3:04. The minutes of the October 14, 1998 meeting were approved. (Motion by Vivian Heltemes, 2nd by Nancy Mooney.)

Gary McGrath spoke to the group, summarizing the charge of the committee and gave examples of issues addressed in the past and issues we might want to discuss this year. He also gave an overview of the subcommittee under the Student Services Committee.

Discussion followed as to prioritizing issues already identified as topics for this year's committee. As soon as the Student Organization Constitution committee identifies additional members, they will begin a study of constitutions and will be ready within the next month to bring some to the whole committee. LeAnn suggested that the landlord/tenant issue in the city of Morris receive attention early in the year, as the Mayor and City Council make decisions on 1) a possible mediation group to handle specific situations and 2) enforcement of existing housing regulations. Sandy pointed out that MCSA and Sean Lazenby, working possibly with MPIRG, should be consulted as they are working on various facets of the issue. Northwest Legal Services, from Alexandria, has offered to present workshops on campus to assist students with off-campus housing concerns. The SSC could also highlight and publicize sources of information available at UMM for students considering off-campus housing. LeAnn said she will contact Sean, and then Morris Mayor Carol Wilcox, and try to arrange their attendance at the next SSC meeting. We will try for the same 3:00 time slot, but it will not necessarily be in two weeks time.

In considering the list of possible agenda items for this year's SSC, issues surrounding Food Service was also brought up as germane to our committee. Gary suggested that Cathleen Brannen be invited if we address this.

Katherine Benson, chair of the Health Services subcommittee gave a report on what they are working on this year. They have already met and have identified some issues, including confidentiality and privacy when meeting with a Health Services staff member, sensitivity of health professionals to lifestyle preferences of UMM students, and health issues for students studying abroad. Katherine reported that the provision of the contract with Stevens Community Medical Center that concerned regular

attendance by a woman physician is being met. She has come at least once a week. Shannon gave an overview of the "Healthy Ideas" seminars held at noon on a weekly basis and sponsored by the Wellness Center/3rd Ear and Peer Health Educators.

In the course of the discussion, mention was made of Steven Granger's Institutional Survey. Gary offered to distribute copies of this survey to all SSC members. Nancy Mooney explained that, in connection with the NCA self-study and accreditation process, a new survey was going to be developed to take the place of three surveys--the Student Opinion Survey, the Degree Candidate Survey, and the General Education Assessment survey. Perhaps the SSC can be given an opportunity to look over possible questions on the "hybred survey" and make suggestions. Gary and Nancy also gave some background of the NCA process.

LeAnn announced that John Bowers had facilitated a web presence for the SSC so that the minutes and other information will be web-accessible. Nancy Mooney has agreed to assist in this endeavor.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Submitted by LeAnn Dean