

DISCUSSION NOTES
CAMPUS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2012
8:30 – 9:30 a.m. – 203 Mrak Hall

Member Attendees (all attended in person, no attendees by phone): Adam Costanzo, Bill Rains, Bruno Nachtergaele, Dan Wilson, Ellen Bonnel, Fred Wood, Harris Lewin, James Cubbage, John Meyer, John Vohs, Karl Engelbach, Katie Kolesar, Linda Katehi, Peter Siegel, Ralph Hexter, Rebecca Sterling, Yena Bae.

Absent: Charles Nichols, Claire Pomeroy, Gloria Alvarado, Linda Bisson, Maureen Stanton, Patricia Turner, Patrick Sherwood, Rahim Reed, Rob Kerner, Shaun Keister, Ted Hillyer, William Lacy.

Attending Non-Members: Gary Delsohn, Amy Pereira, Chris Sindt

Discussion Highlights:

1. Principles of Communication:

- a. Draft “Discussions Notes” will be taken at each meeting and approved by council before posting publically to the council website.
- b. If discussing a sensitive issue, an “Executive Session” may be called and information kept confidential.
- c. The council website will be updated regularly to include a member list, approved Discussion Notes and additional discussion materials.
- d. Developing open communication between university administrators and campus groups is essential. Council members should communicate openly with their constituents to understand the concerns and issues of the specific campus groups.

2. Principles of the Committee

- a. The council will be built on trust and respect for one another.
- b. Council members will act in good faith when representing their constituents and reporting back to them.
- c. Each member will attend meetings with a willingness to listen to one another.
- d. We will encourage disagreement, but be respectful.
- e. This council is not a decision-making group.
- f. Members should not be afraid to express opinions, but should remember they represent a group and opinions shared should be that of their constituents.
- g. It is the responsibility of each committee member to continually encourage open communication within their respective campus groups, so that concerns can be brought back to the council for discussion.

3. Organizational Issues

- a. The council will make every effort to meet every three weeks, including the summer months.
- b. Should an issue arise, the council may convene a meeting immediately.
- c. Should council members foresee an absence and would like to send a delegate; they may do so by sending notification to Karl Engelbach.
- d. Should there be a change in leadership of a campus group, resulting in new council members, both the incoming and outgoing members will attend 2 meetings together, to ensure a smooth transition.
- e. Long range agenda items will be collected and added to meetings throughout the year. In addition, a call for agenda items will be sent prior to each meeting for more time sensitive items.

4. Communications – Both upward & downward within the campus community

- a. Lack of communication is a big issue on campus.
 - i. Current communication practices are not working (i.e. town halls, publications)
 1. People feel they are not being heard.
 2. Campus Administrators are not getting reliable information.
- b. We need to understand what the constituents really care about.
- c. Who are we trying to reach? There are multiple audiences that require multiple ways of communication.
- d. We need to understand what things are inhibiting people from bringing up issues within their campus groups.
 - i. We need to make sure people feel comfortable addressing issues with their council members, so they feel heard.
- e. There is concern that assumptions are made about campus decisions that are based on inaccurate information, thus leaving people frustrated. We need to get the correct information out to the campus groups.
- f. Campus administration needs to build relationships within the campus groups to allow for better communication flow. It needs to be a continuous effort with follow-up.

Action Items:

1. Understanding how the University administration can best share information and obtain feedback from each of our campus constituents.
2. Generate a list of topics you would like to see on the future Council agendas.