

SAIA Meeting, September 1, 2021

Attending: Jason Carmichael, Kathleen Barrett, Mariana Sanchez, Morris Council, Bridgette Stewart, Kelly Williams, Sarah Hupp Williams, Misty Williams, Alicia Freed, Scott Gordon, Mariana Sanchez, Mikhail Beznosov, Dylan McLean, Elaine Mackinnon, Ellie Towhidi, Erich Bergiel, Georgina Deweese, Nancy Capponi

Schedule monthly meetings-- first Wednesday of the month at 4 pm. Dr. Barrett will be sending out meeting invites.

Appointing chair for next year—please send names to Dr. Barrett so that we can discuss next meeting. (Or to let her know if you do not wish to serve as chair).

Combining Student Affairs and Intercollegiate Athletics to make a single group. Focus on students, not fundraising for the purposes of this committee. Went over the mission of the committee – update representation for ‘Civic Impact and Leadership’, and updating language for VP of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (this has now been split into 2 roles). Also questioned Department of Multicultural Achievement representative- confirmed that this is now an official department in University College.

Current relationship between Student Government and Faculty Senate is not great. This committee will work to improve that relationship and be more integrated. Existing issues from last year involved SAFBA and student representatives. We have 2 student reps to this committee, but they were not able to attend this first meeting. (1 rep from Student Affairs, 1 from Athletics) Should we have 3 students? Yes- we are missing a graduate student rep- Alicia will help to identify. Preference stated for a graduate student who is an athlete or works as a GA in Athletics.

Will contact Colleen to make sure that the new Chair will sub for the old Student Affairs rep in the SAFBA meetings. Will work with Ellie to make sure we are in contact with the right people to be prepared to move forward in the next meeting.

Do we want to have someone rep this committee in SGA meetings? Yes- it would be a good idea if they will have us. Dr. Barrett will contact SGA president to check on this.

Report on the use of student fees- how much they are, what they are being used for... long standing issue- at one time we had the highest student activity fees in the system.

Georgina- heard that the increased parking fees for faculty/staff were a result of removing a fee that used to be paid from student fees.

Morris- athletics hasn't asked for a fee increase in 8 or 9 years, so it would be interesting to see how they are being utilized and where they are going.

Mikhail and Kathleen- Can we find alignment between fees and recruitment/retention efforts?

Jason- Athletics is not considering increasing student activity fees at this time. Amount of fees we gather has been greatly impacted by the # of online students who do not pay fees, so fees are diminishing. 'fee paying instances'.

Alicia- as a result of the recent changes, we can no longer have retention events on campus for graduate students, like our annual 'thank you' lunch during Graduate Student Appreciation Week, Donut/coffee breaks, etc. We are only able to use SAFBA funds to pay for food, and we no longer have those funds.

Misty- What are the fees being used for now after the recent changes?

Kathleen suggested setting up a subcommittee to start gathering info about student fees and how they are used. Volunteers are Morris (lead), Elaine, Scott, Sarah, Mikhail. Morris will begin gathering info to start discussing this in the subcommittee.

Any other comments, suggestions, ideas, issues, new business to bring up?

Morris- challenge that they are working through right now. Discrepancy between what UWG considers full-time and what the graduate school considers full time. Some COE graduate students are enrolled in 6 hours per program of study policy, but UWG policy says 9 hours is full time.

Alicia- there are some changes coming down the line in regards to graduate assistantship policies. Suggest reaching out to Dr. Ziglar to see if that is something he is able to share yet.

Kathleen- a student was invited to 5 parties over the weekend, and 4 of those were shut down. The police indicated they were shut down due to reports of a disturbance, or violation of # of people in an apartment. Most of the parties were non-sanctioned by UWG. 1 side says safety issue, 1 side says harassment. Both UWG police and Carrollton police.

Georgina- issue with supposed racism with local police forces. Keeps hearing from her students about run-ins with campus police and Carrollton police. Heard that the basketball court in the Greek Village

the rims were taken down b/c local kids had come in to play on the courts. Negative tiktok and youtube videos. Hurts enrollment.

Kathleen- the UWG police had gotten better per students, but it seems the issue with UWG police has gotten worse again.

Misty- the issue with police is consistently talked about in classes when students talk about issues that concern them.

Morris- we used to have a rep from campus police serve on this committee. Knows that the chief has been working on improving image of campus police with our students.

Kathleen- homecoming games in particular, lots of parties and activities for students- Carrollton police have set up roadblocks and checkpoints to prevent problems, but from student point of view they feel harassed or profiled. With the return to campus, that problem may return as well.

Morris- hasn't engaged student athletes in conversations about their relationship with police, but in recent marches he has discussed with police their efforts to keep people who are not members of the UWG community out of the marches, etc.

Kathleen- will speak with Diversity to see if we can get a member of that department to be a part of these discussions.

Morris- Michael and Ashley (Diversity) are very overwhelmed. We may need to find a way to work with Seamless Integration without putting more strain on the Diversity office.

Jason- in conversations with homecoming and black alumni network in regards to these questions, campus police are involved in these conversations, and thinks there would be support for this.

Kathleen- recommendation for Seamless Integration subcommittee for this group. Volunteers: Kelly, Morris, Georgina. Need volunteer to lead.

Kathleen- Also work on digging down into the relationship with the police. Sarah willing to work on this as well. Will reach out to Chief Watson and Carrollton police to make a visit and hear concerns, keep them up to speed.

Nancy- do we have a shared drive for this committee? Kathleen- Not yet, but we will work on creating one.