

MINUTES – SAAA Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

CoL 156

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Borovetz called the meeting to order at ~3:10 PM. 13 members and guests attended.

2. POTENTIAL ROLE OF SAAA ON BEHALF OF POST-DOCTORAL STUDENTS (DR. GAU)

Dr. Gau worked with the University of Pittsburgh Post-doctoral Association (UPPDA) while he was a Graduate Student Representative. There are ~850 post-docs on campus, 72% within the Schools of the Health Sciences; 150 in Arts and Sciences; 66 in Engineering. There are no figures for the number of international post-docs. UPPDA is funded from the Health Sciences ... unsure whether the Provost is also providing support. Whether UPPDA should participate in university governance is one question for Dr. Gau to discuss with Dr. Urban. Dr. Gau will also meet with UPPDA leadership to discuss possible involvement and other potential issues/concerns of interest to post-doctoral fellows.

3. UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS' CONCERNS, CENTERING ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS BROADLY, FOR SAAA TO CONSIDER (DR. STREETER)

Students reported for certain dormitories on campus there is mice infestation. A rat was seen in Brackenridge Hall. How should SAAA respond? Dr. Harding will contact Jim Earl about this. It is requested that Dr. Bonner please follow up as well. Apparently, this sort of problem is not found in newer dorms such as Nordenberg but is noted in the "Quad." The presence of dining facilities below and next to buildings likely exacerbates these issues.

Also discussed was the new grocery store which is located at the site of the 7-11 on Forbes. The general comment is that this grocery store is of value to Pitt students.

Another topic related to the Wellness Center and the fact that as opposed to a simple walk-in, appointments need to be made to be seen within a few hours of the appointment. If this wait is not doable, students are referred to the Urgent Care Clinic, one of which being located @Shadyside Hospital.

The topic of mental health was discussed. The Counseling Center allows walk-in anytime. Care and Resources for Students is a resource for referring students with significant individual concern.

It was suggested that Pam Connolly be invited to an SAAA meeting in the spring term.

4. UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS/ENROLLMENT UPDATE (MS. KANE, DR. HARDING)

Freshmen enrollment for fall, 2018 = 4,165 (from ~29,000 applicants) up from 4,035 one year ago. The 4,100 # is pretty much capped by the availability of residential hall housing guarantees. The University guarantees 3-years of housing and up to 70% of freshmen remain in university housing in their 3rd year. Of the 4,165 enrollees, 41% are non-residents; 4.7% are international up 12.6% from last year. The majority of non-residents hail from NY, NJ, VA, MD, and OH. Also very important there is a 12% increase in underrepresented minority enrollment. OAFAs attribute all these very positive outcomes to their effort to recruit country wide, having recruiters live in key locales across the country, becoming enmeshed in the local community, etc.

The topic of declining fertility rates/birth rates which occurred with the Great Recession in 2008 portends a significant drop-off of college age, 18 year-olds, in 2026. The University is, of course, aware of this and will plan accordingly.

Dr. Harding suggested that the Dean of The University Honors College, Dr. Brian Primack, be invited to a future SAAA meeting. We will plan for Dr. Primack to attend an SAAA meeting in the upcoming spring term.

Respectfully Submitted,

Juan Taboas and Harvey Borovetz