

**Student Affairs and University Life (SAUL) Council  
Meeting Minutes February 9, 2010**

**Attendance:** Carolyn Cave (Chair), Madeleine Charney, Christopher Faulkner, John Higginson, John Jenkins, Jean Kim, Derek Khanna, Tom Milligan  
Guests: Tracie Reed

Noting low attendance at the meeting the group agreed that Carolyn Cave should send out another message to Council members to determine the best meeting time for the March and April SAUL meetings.

There was discussion about the group's charge and how the group differs from other Committees or Task Forces at the University where administrators, faculty and students convene. Carolyn Cave read the Council's charge to the group. It was agreed that the charge of the group is very important even though it has been difficult to generate interest among faculty.

It was asked whether or not the group reviews problems like other Councils. It was noted that in the past SAUL has served as a listening post for different grievances. Vice Chancellor Kim also noted that it was a good place where ideas can be vetted on new programs such as the Co-curricular Transcripts and First Year Experience program.

The group agreed that the Council should not function primarily as a reporting mechanism but should provide feedback on a variety of themes.

There was general discussion on current issues, including:

- Code of Student Conduct
- Textbook pricing, buyback and contract with Follett
- Police Advising Committee
- SGA Bylaws

On the textbook issue, it was agreed that it seems reasonable for faculty to provide students with a textbook list a week in advance of classes so they would have greater options in purchasing their books. Student members also noted that having a course syllabus available at this time would allow them to make more informed decisions on whether or not to drop a course before the semester started. Without the syllabus, the students contended, they still might be reluctant to purchase a textbook prior to the first day of class. Jean Kim noted that OIT has worked to develop a feature in SPIRE that will list the textbooks required by a student's class. It was noted that the University's contract with Follett is coming up for consideration soon and that it may be possible to address issues of enabling student-to-student textbook buybacks and other issues at this time. The Council expressed interest in hearing the findings of the SGA Subcommittee on Textbooks' at a future meeting. They also noted that it would be helpful to hear from Joyce Hatch on the issue.

One of the student Council members expressed frustration over difficulty in managing SGA bylaw changes. Vice Chancellor Kim expressed that she did not feel SAUL was the best avenue for this discussion. She said she feels that it is important to allow the students to manage the changes to their own bylaws themselves unless they have shown they have no interest in or ability to make needed changes themselves. A faculty member suggested that perhaps the SGA can look to the Faculty Senate's bylaw revision procedure as a model. Each of the Faculty Senate's Councils and Committees is in charge of making suggestions annually regarding the revisions of

bylaws which affect their Council or Committee. This spreads the responsibility out and makes the task more manageable.

Per a student's inquiry the Council also discussed whether or not the Wellman Document required Faculty involvement in the review of the Code of Student Conduct. Upon later investigation it was determined that the SGA retains primary responsibility in this area.

The issue of the Police Advising Committee was also discussed. Whether or not the Committee had oversight capacity was questioned and whether or not the Committee had met. Vice Chancellor Kim followed up after the meeting with Johnny Whitehead, the Chief of Police. Vice Chancellor Kim reported in a follow-up e-mail to Council members that:

“The agreement signed by the chancellor following the last student strike, included the chief to establish an advisory group (not a group with an oversight responsibility for the UMPD) comprised of staff, faculty, and students. Specifically chief Whitehead was to work with the SGA president to appoint 4 undergrads, GSS president to appoint 2 grads, Ernie May for 3 faculty reps in addition to reps from the DOS and other administrative offices. Unfortunately while chief Whitehead contacted the presidents of the SGA and GSS many times since April 09, and also Dr. May, speaker of the faculty senate, these seats remain vacant on the UMPD advisory group. Still the chief held the first meeting of the UMPD advisory group in May 2009 and once in the fall on Nov. 09. He is planning to hold the spring semesters meeting sometime during end of Feb/ early March time frame. He would be delighted if the three groups (fac. Senate, SGA, and GSS) will appoint reps from their areas in time for the spring meeting; they should contact him directly with the names of appointed reps.”