

Meeting Minutes
Academic Support Standing Subcommittee
February 28, 2008

Delegates Present: Debbie Allen, Betsy McCoubrey, Todd Jones (co-chair), Alison Tasch, Bronwynne Rhode, Francesca DiRosa, Susan Tobia

Alternates Present: Carmen Serrano, Gina MacKenzie

Guests: Michael Akoto-Bamfo, Mary Anderson, Earl Weeks, Anna Hargrove, Arnold DiBlasi

The meeting was convened by Todd Jones.

Agenda Topics:

1. Approval of Minutes from January 24
2. Time Amnesty—Follow-up to IWC discussion
3. Add Policy
4. Plagiarism/Student Code
5. SGA Proposal

1. The Minutes for January 24, 2008 were approved.
2. Time Amnesty Proposal: The I.W.C. sent the Proposal back to Committee with instructions to address the following:
 - Policy Memo 10: II A2...”....successfully completed with P, MP...” MP is not a passing grade; thus, MP should be removed....Committee voted to remove
 - Include Integrity Rationale: Betsy McCoubrey handed out sample paragraphs for consideration. After review and discussion, the Committee voted to add the last two paragraphs to the Rationale for awarding time amnesty. Betsy agreed to write the final Draft of the statement and include it in the revised document

Anna Hargrove brought up the issue of students not having consistency and follow-thru in regard to counseling and advising. She recommended that the Institution begin looking into matching students with specific counselors so that students would be able to receive information and seek support from a consistent source, rather than from different counselors and different areas within the College.

Todd responded by saying, while the Counseling Center does not have a case model program, this type of model has been done with students on academic probation with little success.

3. Student Government Proposal: Proposal for Extension of Operational Hours of the Computer Lab (Synchronizing and Extending hours of operation to 11:00 P.M.)

The central points of discussion were as follows:

Michael stated that Dr. Gay said she would pay the extra hour salaries to keep the Lab open until 11:00. However, the main issue surrounds the Instructional Aides working beyond 10:00 P.M.

Arnold stated that the union contract states that Instructional Aides do not have to work past 10:00 P.M. unless they volunteer. When asked if anyone would be willing to volunteer to work until 11:00, no one accepted. Also, no one wanted to come on Campus just for one hour.

Alison suggested that perhaps Learning Lab personnel who are paid at an hourly rate may be possible prospects for filling in the hour.

At 10:00 P.M., the College security staff is decreased. What would be the cost of maintaining a higher level of staffing?

How many students are we talking about.....a cost and benefit analysis should be undertaken. Arnold reports that to date approximately 30 students are in the Lab from 8-9 and eight students from 9-10. According to staff, most, if not all, are on My Space, Facebook, or e-mail. This is not a strong enough justification for remaining open. How many students are coming to the Lab at those hours to write papers or do research? How many students have computers at home?

Michael raised the point that perhaps students do not come in the later hours or following their 9:45 classes, because they know the Lab will be closed..."If it is not available to them how do you know they would not use it?"

Why do the times of closing and opening vary on the different campuses?

Todd asked about the origin of the concern for the hour extension. Michael stated that the issue was raised by Paralegal students and evening students who did not have access to computers in the home.

Gina proposed that the Committee take practical steps to research the issues with appropriate administrators and develop surveys for gathering information from students. A motion was put forth to form a Committee to take on this task. Motion was seconded....the Committee consists of Gina MacKenzie, Susan Tobia, and Francesca DiRosa.

Agenda items #3 and #4 were not discussed due to lack of meeting time.

Respectfully submitted,

Francesca DiRosa