

University Affairs

2012-2013 AY Final Report

Members:

- Kay Daigle, Chair
- Brett Elliot
- Alistair Maeer
- Lawrence Silver (Fall Semester)
- Jerry Stout
- Susan Webb

Charges:

1. Investigate why students can't process online withdrawals

Kristie Luke's response from 9/13/2012:

"...Tim Boatmun, Tony Lehrling, Kelly D'Arcy and I started looking at this in the spring to see what it would take to make it happen. One issue was making sure the student would be aware of their obligations regarding:

- 1) return of Title IV funding (pell grants/student loans) if w/d before 60% mark,
- 2) checkout procedures for campus housing and cancellations of housing contract
- 3) grading options (W vs WF)

We've worked out the wording on Number 1 & 2. On number 3, we are working with Academic Affairs regarding changing the academic calendar to only have one final withdrawal day and discontinue the WF option.

The second issue is with the programming. We had to put the online complete withdrawal option on hold because we only have one primary POISE/Campus Connect programmer and he has been working out problems with the new billing/statement program. They're still having issues with that but should have it resolved this semester....maybe.

It's our hope that Craig will be able to work on this during the fall and we implement it in the spring or summer..."

Most Recent Response (4/18/2013)

".....we are going to try to have an online complete withdrawal process via Campus Connect ready to test this summer. One of the things we also had to get worked out was the W and W__ withdrawal periods. Current policy stated that a student dropping between week 8 and 12 needed the instructor's signature before dropping and that the instructor had the option to grade "WF" during this time. Between online students not being on campus and/or the instructor not being on campus (online only), this caused us

a lot of issues. Right now, we only have 2 to 3 faculty members who exercise their right to grade “WF” each semester. With that, Academic Affairs has approved a change to have one automatic “W” period through week 12 and eliminate the “W__” period. This is within OSRHE policy on grading. We can now proceed with an online withdrawal process since the ‘signature’ issue is resolved now.”

2. Come up with events to improve collegiality

Proposed events:

- Faculty driven professional development workshops at the beginning of the semester should be offered. Or at least input from faculty regarding the topics.
- Establish a faculty commons area or professional development center in addition to the lounge. This space could be used for faculty gatherings, a place to meet and discuss issues of common interest, project collaborations, showcase achievement, coordinate educational resources, to name a few.
- Begin a mentoring program for junior faculty.
- Improve media communications (Linkedin, Yammer, etc).
- Sponsor Brown Bag Lunches

Brown bag lunches began during the Fall semester of 2012 with an idea generating session. This was followed up with monthly sessions during the Spring semester of 2013. Invitations and reminders were sent out and thank you notes were sent to presenters. Attendance was low (single digits) but discussions were lively and topics were interesting and informative.

3. Investigate the possibility of putting addresses on buildings

The first correspondence was with campus security. Below is Steve Harman’s response:

“I will forward this to Ross for any official responds or you should request a respond. The answer I had Pam relay to you was my opinion because of the University having only one address. The Emergency services already have our 911 info. Addresses.”

Senator Daigle followed up with Mr. Harman’s suggestion and contacted Dr. Walkup on 2/22/13. We did not receive a response. Senator Daigle followed up the initial request on 4/15/13 and still has not received a response.

4. Investigate the idea of adding a large campus map structure

The committee met and decided that the request needed to come from student recruitment/services or the welcome center. Senator Stout sent a letter to Dean McCraw and did not receive a response. Senator Daigle then contacted Eddie Harbin to obtain an estimate for the sign and construction in hopes of making a proposal to Dr. Walkup. Correspondence with Mr. Harbin began in early February with follow-up reminders. This is the last correspondence received from Mr. Harbin:

“Sorry I meant to respond sooner.

I will need more info on the project in order to develop costs. Perhaps I could visit with the Subcommittee or you could provide the info for the big map such as size, material, will the map be lighted, location, maybe photos of similar installation.

For the small signs attached to the building, exterior or interior, size, etc.

I am happy to help, but would expect more information in the request than I have now, in order to develop the cost for installation.”

Upon receipt of this response on 2/21/13, Senator Daigle responded with the requested information. On 4/16/13, a follow-up email was sent asking if he had a chance to consider our request. No response to date.