

SFAC Winter Meeting #5

2/6/15 11:00AM-1:00PM

PC West Bear Room

Call to Order

Present: Paul Tchir, Jackie Markt-Maloney, Prasad Radhakrishna, Andrew Thai, Ashraf Ramzy Beshay, Darlene Nguyen, Mukanth Vaidyanathan, Jennifer Huerta, Ivan Evans, William McCarroll, Paola Badilla

Absent: Ellen Kim, Akshay Tangutur, Norienne Saign, Sylvia Lepe-Askari, John Hughes

Informal Discussion of Revised SFAC Plan

1. Discuss in more concrete terms what we want to do
2. John met with all of the unit heads and had a larger budget discussion that focused on the entire budget in general
 - a. Discussed what they're requesting for their budgets, what they're adding/removing from the budgets
3. Unit heads "ask" John, who brings it back to SFAC, who reports to the VCSA
4. We never actually get a chance to look at the "asks" from the unit heads -> decreases transparency and our ability to represent what our constituents want
5. Show more of what these units are asking for → seeing the bigger picture and understanding what their "asks" are and what they need.
6. Budget proposal model - \$200,000 permanent and \$200,000 temporary funds, entails looking at one or two units in depth every year, chosen by students to look at their programs and their strengths to determine priorities
7. Advisory role more than a delegator role
8. Student life is growing
 - a. Because if the growth, they allocated money for the Muir artificial turf
 - b. Even though we haven't been on the allocation model, we still have reserves for student fees offset on the side
9. Difficult to do it pragmatically and conceptually – moving from a proposal model to a spending model
10. Another way to look at it: no one in a realistic world would spend their entire paycheck because we would be unable to respond to things unplanned

- a. Thus, reserves that have accumulated over the 50+ years that we've been around are used for renewal of infrastructure/recruitment of faculty/construction/etc.
- b. Bringing that concept to Student Affairs (SFAC) - if we look at the revenue and how much is spent, hopefully not every dollar coming in is being spent because the expenditure line is growing – the slope of spending is higher than the revenue
- c. Enrollment *is* growing but the fixed costs are outpacing the growth
- d. Need to re-align the budget and some of the reserves so that's there's sustainable funding
- e. The Student Services Fees – there are reserves, but the annual picture shows a heavy reliance on reserves
 - i. Potentially consider funding certain proposals knowing that it's a one-time proposal
 - ii. Other option: re-aligning programs
- f. Questions for John: What are the overall reserves, what is the savings account total, what our anticipated spending rate is?
- g. The recommendations have usually been accepted unless there was some extenuating circumstance regarding SFAC allocations

Solicitation of questions for Week 6 VCSA Visit

1. As representatives of the student voice, looking at his relationship with the student voice is one of the things we'll be most concerned with
 - a. Email Paul if you have any questions that you'd like to ask the VCSA
 - b. General questions: What he wants to see, what he plans to do, how he wants to work with us

Weeks 7-10 Discussion

1. Week 7
 - a. The layout of the “asks” from all of the unit heads will be coming in
 - b. What ways are we going to/ by what criteria will we be analyzing these proposals?
 - i. Last year they used the campus/VCSA student plan
 - ii. Whatever it is, should reflect an organized and systematic way of looking at the proposals
 - c. Determining whether we need more information on the different units

- i. Entails dividing up into subcommittees to ask further questions to unit heads for more context/background
 - d. By Week 8, council representatives need to present to their council about SFAC (public relations campaign)
 - i. A presentation is being created by Paul that council reps can use
 - ii. We're moving away from proposals → this is how your student voice is going to be utilized in the future
 - iii. Getting feedback from the constituencies allows us to gather strong proof and evidence that this is what the student voice wants
 1. However, no one is going to have the detailed perspective that we have in the short amount of time on the agenda
 - a. Will they be able to weigh things like health services/recreation/etc. against serious matters?
2. Week 9
 - a. Final recommendations, decide on what form we want to present it in
3. Week 10
 - a. Preparing for spring quarter, looking at our future priorities and initiatives
 - b. Discussing public relations and how we actually want to go about it

Further discussion regarding going to Student Councils

1. Is it required to go to your council meetings?
 - a. Revelle, required to go to every single meeting start to finish – implemented last year
 - b. Warren, every meeting
 - c. Muir, must attend 5 per quarter
 - d. ERC, every meeting
 - e. GSA, every meeting
 - f. Sixth, don't recall being forced to go to every meeting, but have been going to every meeting
2. Do the council reps here want assistance from other external representatives?
 - a. They wouldn't know the majority of the units when we go to council

- b. There's so many departments and clusters under student affairs, getting their priorities is difficult to be useful for gathering data
 - i. Even though we're representing our college, it's hard to do that because there's not one unified voice in our college – disconnect when we're trying to represent a voice for our students
3. Moving it towards a public relations model so that it's us presenting ourselves to them
 - c. Not going to satisfy everyone/it's not going to be a collective voice
4. Is there a way for us to know the number of students that utilize which programs and which clusters – sometime students don't realize that by using it, they're showing that it's important to them
 - d. The statistics are available from most units to get a clear list of data
 - e. Sometimes there are services that don't represent the number of people that use them but are still important
 - i. Student legal services – may not be popularly used throughout the year but it's free legal services for students that may know nothing about legal services
 - f. There's a lot of services that the students aren't aware of that they could be using
 - i. Jennifer - T.A. at Muir, meets with a lot of international students that don't know that OASIS, International Center, etc. don't exist
 - ii. We can see who knows about these resources and are using them, but we don't know about the people that don't have the time to use them/aren't informed about the resources
5. Open minded approach towards the recommendations – anything that we can bring in is something that can benefit us
6. The condition of all student government – it's not only about the structure
 - g. Take that information and comment on what the students don't know about it – ask the VCSA to comment on what he's doing to make student services more visible
7. Question to propose to the unit heads: What is the potential population of students that they could be helping to get an idea of how far their reach extends?
8. VCSA meeting next week, be prepared by dressing up and bringing questions

Adjournment

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