



SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS
Notes of Meeting

Date: Friday, November 9, 2018

Time: 9:40-10:35am

Room: 209 Assumption Hall

Committee Members: Chris Baillargeon, Dr. Jennifer Johrendt, Prof Ruth Kuras, Dave McEwen, Ms. Zeina Merheb (co-Chair), Sharon Munro, Katherine Quinsey (Chair), Geri Salinitri, Amber Shaheen.

Absent: Deehanna Cober (regrets), Bernarda Doctor, Ryan Flannagan, Dr. Sean Horton, Dr. Shashai Jasra, Bharat Maheshwari, (regrets), Siddharth Patel, Kathy Pfaff, Lena Sleiman.

In Attendance: Cindy Crump, Ms. Renée Wintermute (University Secretary).

Quorum from 9:45-9:55am only. Although quorum was not reached, the following is an unofficial summary of the non-quorate meeting.

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was not approved at this time.

2 Minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2018

The minutes were not approved at this time.

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding business

Nothing to report.

Items for Information

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Report of the Student Liaison Subcommittee and Co-Chair

NOTED:

- The co-Chair reported that she will be reaching out to other student bodies about how best to hear the student voice and looking into what other universities are doing in this regard.
- There is a desire to keep Caucus, but structural change may be needed to ensure it is useful and effective. On the other hand, it has been recognized that, while Caucus is about student experience and life, students have direct access for such concerns to the Associate Vice-President, Student Experience.
- A primary concern is that members are not attending meeting. It is especially concerning that student members are not attending since this is their venue.
- The Liaison Subcommittee is not working. It is too formal a structure and is too difficult to manage.
- It was hoped that a change in location would generate different agenda items and more participation. This remains to be seen.

5.2 Open Educational Resources/Open Textbooks

(See document SC181109-5.2 for more details.)

NOTED:

- A comprehensive presentation was provided on Open Educational Resources (OERs) by the Director of the Office of Open Learning. OERs are one way that universities can address the issue of affordability of higher education particularly given that the cost of textbooks continue to increase at a rate significantly above other services and above CPI.
- OERs are specifically licensed to allow use at no cost and, depending on the parameters set by the original author(s), can be revised and reformatted as needed. They can be viewed online, printed in parts, or printed in book format.
- OERs are peer-reviewed and edited.
- 2/3 of students choose not to purchase textbooks, and of those, 1/3 do poorly because of this.
- Through the eCampus Ontario initiative, it is estimated that more than \$2m has been saved for Ontario students and \$350k saved for Windsor students.
- OER projects at Windsor have seen undergraduate students as co-authors of open textbooks.
- Members were informed of the growth in z-cred programs and z-courses. These are programs and courses that commit to using only OERs or materials freely available at the Library.
- Initial reaction from publishers was to disavow OERs as lower quality work. Since then, they have attempted to get into the market by including “inclusive access” clauses. However, these clauses result in the faculty losing their IP, students having to pay fees, and allowing publishers unlimited use of personal data.

5.3 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

NOTED:

- Updates on the activities and initiatives in the Office of the Associate Vice-President, Student Experience was provided, including: Windsor Proud Spirit campaign launch, release of a cannabis strategy, Student Mental Health Strategy launch, Aboriginal Education Council awareness initiatives, Lancer Leadership conference, Alternative Spring Break (Walpole Island and Costa Rica), Winter Orientation preparations, Academic advising and support with the launch of the new UWinsite student system, International Student Centre initiatives, HeadStart planning, and Relay-for-Life planning.
- Welcome Week was a great success with more than 1.5x the students participating over last year.
- The new formal student dining hall is opened with positive reviews.
- Food Services hours of operation will be adjusted for the exam period, opening earlier and closing later.
- Food Services is working to obtain “Fair Trade” designation by Fall 2019. All non-branded coffee shops have fair trade coffee.
- Members were informed that customers are able to make a donation at cash registers to the student food bank.
- Members were reminded that the Bookstore does offer price matching.

Additional Business

6 Question period/Other Business

PAWS for Stress will be running sessions on November 29th and December 5th. The November 29th session will feature one room with dogs and one room with cats.

7 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:35am.