Student Affairs Council Minutes  
December 10, 2009
Grand Forks, UND

Members Present
Donna Fishbeck, BSC (connected via phone)  
Ray Gerszewski, MaSU  
Georgia Pullen, NDSCS  
Prakash Mathew, NDSU  
Robert Boyd, UND  
Glen Schmaltz, VCSU  
Jan Solem WSC (connected via phone)  
Michel Hillman, NDUS

Others Present
Rebecca Duben-Kalash, NDUS (connected via phone)  
Mick Pytlick, NDUS  
Jane Vangsness, NDUS  
Bonnie Bowman, DSU  
Ken Story, NDSA  
Lillian Elsinga, UND  
Tessa Sicble, NDCAWS/CASAND (connected via phone)  
Pat Seaworth, NDUS (connected via phone)  
Cynthia Wagner Goulet, NDUS (connected via phone)  
William Burns, NDSU

Hillman called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

Additions:
• Presentation from North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services (NDCAWS) on Stalking Awareness Month

There were no corrections or additions to the draft minutes from the November 12, 2009 SAC meeting. The minutes were, by consensus, approved as presented.

NDSA Report – Ken Story
Ken Story gave the NDSA report in Marboe’s absence. The last NDSA meeting was in Minot on November 13th and 14th. Dr. David Fuller kicked off the meeting with the delivery of an encouraging speech on the importance of students in the higher education system. Story reported that he has attended six of the NDUS campus senate meetings and has witnessed a wide range of variance in the senates. During the NDSA meeting, the Student Affairs Committee broke up into small groups to discuss the variety of student services that are offered on various campuses and what services they would like to see improved or added. Two of the biggest issues that arose that students felt their schools could improve on included mental health services and campus security measures. Fee representation and multicultural enrichment were also mentioned. With the growing diversity of our campuses, students feel that multicultural enrichment can and should have a bigger hand in our education. NDSA voted to pass a resolution extending our support to HR 3221 with the belief that this bill will increase affordability for all students and improve the student loan system. NDSA also passed a resolution to support the Staff Senate of the NDUS in their desire to have a nonvoting staff member on the SBHE. The NDSA feels that the Staff Senate should have voice in the SBHE just as faculty and students do. The next meeting will take place in Grand Forks on January 22nd and 23rd.
Student Mental Health Task Force Report – William Burns
Burns went over the Student Mental Health Task Force Services Report and survey that was distributed to the council prior to the meeting. The council and Burns had discussion on the recommendations. Hillman suggested that he and Burns schedule a conference call with the chancellor to brief him on the report and ask for his guidance on next steps.

Student Photos in PeopleSoft – Seaworth and Wagner Goulet
Seaworth said that some campus officials would like the NDUS to amend the current policies and procedures that define directory information, specifically the part that lists student photos as directory information. He said that the definition could just as easily exclude student photos or could be amended to have some student photos included and some not. This is entirely discretionary. Seaworth said that the board policy states that the chancellor shall adopt a uniform system definition of directory information. The current policy was adopted and approved by the chancellor following cabinet discussion and acceptance; this is where we would go to make any changes to current definition.

Seaworth said that with our current definition, if you have a photo of a student, you can release that to the media or publish it in institutional publications. He said that campuses do not need student consent to publish photos of athletes or other students who receive awards or honors. Seaworth said if student photos are excluded from directory information, they would be treated as confidential information. The campus would need consent from the student to publish their photo unless one of the other FERPA exceptions apply. He said that all students have the right to file a request that directory information be kept confidential; the institution must honor that request until it is removed. Seaworth said that directory information is public information and that anyone who requests access to or copy of that information is entitled to it.

Hillman said the council is moving towards a recommendation to remove student photos from directory information; however, some council members want to go back and talk to various groups on their campus to see what implications this might have. Hillman said that this agenda item will be put back on the January agenda.

Use of State Vehicles by Student Organization – Seaworth and Wagner Goulet
Seaworth said that this issue is something that came out after he was alerted by State Risk Management that there have been numerous instances where students are operating state vehicles and there is no liability insurance coverage. He said the state law is clear that liability insurance for operation for state vehicles is provided only for state employees or agents of the state who are engaged in or performing services or business for the state or state entity. He said that we cannot let people who are not covered by the state’s liability insurance operate state vehicles. Seaworth said that the system needs to have a policy that establishes some guidelines so it is clear when students are authorized to use state vehicles and when they are not.

Wagner Goulet went through the proposed State Board of Higher Ed Policy, relative to student drivers of state owned vehicles. Seaworth said that he sent the draft policy out on the listserv. He said that for students who are operating a licensed vehicle in an instructional program, i.e., truck driving, heavy equipment, John Deer program, the campuses need to purchase additional liability insurance for student operation of those vehicles. Seaworth said that one option would
be to amend the state law. Wagner Goulet said that current policy states there is to be no personal or political use of state vehicles. She said the next step of the draft policy would involve ND Department of Transportation (NDDOT) to revise their State Fleet Policy Manual. She has been in contact with them but due to the complexity of this issue they have not gotten back to her. Hillman suggested the council schedule a special conference call at the end of January to further discuss this issue. He asked that Wagner Goulet share the draft policy with the Administrative Affairs Council. Wagner Goulet said that she would continue to keep the council informed on any news from NDDOT and Risk Management.

Stalking Awareness Month – Tessa Sicble
Sicble said that she works for the Council on Abused Women’s Services (NDCAWS) in Bismarck. She provided information to the council on the coalition. She said that January is Stalking Awareness Month. Sicble said that this year the coalition wants to provide information to students of ND colleges and universities. The coalition wants to educate students on what stalking is and where they can seek services. She said the coalition is also in the process of putting together safety kits for stalking victims. She said that stalking is an element of dating violence. The most prevalent age groups for victims of stalking are victims between the ages of 18-24. The coalition wants to partner with NDUS campuses in sending out an informational email that describes what stalking looks like. The council was very supportive of this. Hillman asked that Duben-Kalash send Sicble’s email address out on the SAC listserv. He asked that the council members provide Sicble with a contact person on their campus. He also asked the council members to cc the listserv with this contact name.

Updates:

ND Higher Education Consortium for Substance Abuse Prevention – Vangsness
Vangsness said that she just returned from Washington D.C. for the Project Directors meeting for the ND Partners in Prevention Grant from the Department of Education. She said this grant will get kicked off in January. The first product or late night event would happen mid to late February.

Plan for 2010 Professional Development Workshop – Fishbeck
Fishbeck said that John Lowery was secured for the workshop. She said that he will discuss legislative updates, legislation and the impact on student affairs. Fishbeck said that he will also be giving an hour session on FERPA. She said that she is still waiting to hear back from a potential speaker on restorative justice. The council discussed increasing the campus and participation fees.

It was moved by Pullen, seconded by Mathew, to increase the campus contribution to $500 and keep the participant fee at $50 for the 2010 Professional Development Workshop. Fishbeck said the date of the workshop is May 25 and 26. She said that restorative justice will be discussed on May 25 in the afternoon and legislative updates and compliance issues as they relate to student affairs will be discussed on May 26 in the morning and part of the afternoon.
2011-13 Biennial Budget Process and Timeline
Hillman said that Vangsness has experience with StudentVoice and he is going to work with her on getting a system initiative prepared. He asked the council if there were other system initiatives they wanted to propose. Pullen suggested putting together rational for an Outreach Coordinator. She said their campus will desperately miss this position. An outreach coordinator who worked 50% time in mental health and 50% time in abuse prevention was discussed.

The council adjourned at 4:30 p.m.