

University Life Committee

December, 1 2016

Minutes

Members Present

Robert Bartsch, Keith Daniels, Victoria Duffoo, Nichole Eslinger, Clarke Iakovakis, Michele Kahn, Christine Kovic, Nikki Olivas, Faiza Zalila, Sana Zeidan

Members Absent

Rishabh Bothra, Judy Chapmon, Stephen Cotten, Allen Hill, Lisa Lacher, David Rachita, Bazlur Rashid

Alternates Present

Ashley Green, Christine Walther

Alternates Absent

San Lu, Pat McCormack, Kristi Randolph, Rosana Salinas, Anthony Scaturro, Mary Ann Shallberg, Caye Trahan

Action Item

Approval of Minutes

The Chair asked if there were any changes or corrections to the November 3, 2016 minutes. One correction was noted for the spelling of Faiza Zalila. With no further changes or corrections, a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented.

Minutes approved

Information/Discussion Items

Smoking Policy: Dr. Bartsch distributed two versions of the smoking policy for the committee to review: (1) a reduction in smoking areas, specifically the Patio Café (2) a non-smoking policy. He said the UHCL policy he distributed to the committee at the last meeting was not the version that was approved by ULC in 2014. Dr. Bartsch said all of the various UHCL websites have the old policy from 2008 listed. He said if we cannot show in the minutes from University Council that the 2014 changes were approved, this committee will also have to update the policy to what was approved in 2014. Dr. Bartsch said he would like to call for a non-binding vote to get a sense of what the committee thinks regarding the two policies. We can then move for an official motion and would like part of this motion to include taking the policy back to our constituents. After discussing a motion was made and seconded to take the non-smoking policy back to the constituents for feedback. The committee vote was 6 in favor of and 3 opposed. ***(Motion passed)***

Spring Semester Meeting Dates: After a brief discussion it was decided to distribute the meeting matrix to the committee to determine the best meeting time for the spring semester.

Bike Racks: It was reported by Judy Chapmon that some of the bike racks next to lot A are getting too crowded and people are starting to attach their bikes to the hand railing along the stairs. Dr. Bartsch confirmed with the committee that they are getting more bike racks and he will report this back to Judy Chapmon.

Medical Withdrawals: Nikki Olivas said they have had pregnant students come to them for medical withdrawal not knowing that they have options. She said under Title IX we are required to allow students to have absences or to make up course work due to their pregnancy. Nikki said she does not believe that all faculty are aware that they are obligated to make these allowances. She wanted to recommend to ULC that we add this

statement to the catalog and the incomplete policy. She said she spoke to Richard Baker and he said it is not currently in our discrimination policy. Nichole Eslinger said there are some cases in which the faculty will not be obligated to accommodate the student. Nikki said she refers students to the Dean of Students and has them talk to their professor to see if they will provide accommodations. After discussing the committee agreed that the best place for this would be in Human Resources. Nichole Eslinger will take the lead to see where we should publicize this information and inform the Curriculum and Teaching committee.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned.