

Academic Assembly
October 30, 2017
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

MINUTES

Present: Pat Buchsel, Felipe Castillo, Terri Clark, Mark Cohan, Brooke Coleman, Carlos de Mello e Souza, Allison Gibbons, Arie Greenleaf, Chuck Lawrence, Agnieszka Miguel, Michael Ng, Katie Oliveras, Julianne Slate, Frank Shih, Gregory Silverman

Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes

- I. Review of 10-16-17 Minutes
 - A. Approved with no oppositions or abstentions
- II. DACA/Undocumented Student Issues (*Students Barbara and Jorge, Dave Lance*)
 - A. Students' remarks
 1. Sharing of personal background and experiences as DACA/undocumented people in United States, and students at SU
 2. Students working with faculty to pursue options on campus
 3. Since recent political action, DACA students are referred to CAPS as their resource for emotional and other issues, but students do not feel CAPS is prepared to fully handle the complex issues associated with their experiences
 4. SU is not able to support these students in the ways they need
 - a. Have given up on going abroad
 - b. Now applying for internships to align with an employer who understands situation
 - c. Need help with career advancement in a specialized way that Career Services is not trained in
 5. DACA is a deferred action that allows undocumented people to live and work legally in the US, no path to citizenship, has to be renewed every two years, as of right now no renewals are available, was voluntary to disclose status
 6. SU does not have the same resources available at other institutions, students experience a lot of being bounced around from office to office
 7. Clear lack of training across campus for faculty and staff on how to handle these issues
 8. The Scarlet Group is a peer support network for undocumented students and allies – has been challenging to reach out to spread information
 9. It is unethical to actively recruit students with immigration status issues, and even use those numbers to promote the institution, while simultaneously not offering the unique set off support services those students need
 10. Goals
 - a. Continue conversations about how SU is supporting undocumented students
 - b. Advocate to have a visible space for undocumented students specifically, and faculty/staff training in key areas: Career Services, financial aid, admissions, etc.
 - B. Office of University Counsel statement
 1. Counsel oversees legal affairs at university
 2. DACA is an executive action program that President Obama put into place in 2012 as an alternative to Congress being unable to pass comprehensive immigration reform
 3. Has released a broad statement of university support for DACA and undocumented students

4. Hesitant to declare SU as a sanctuary university, as this may bring ICE or other legal attention to campus
 5. Instead, City of Seattle has officially declared itself a sanctuary city and sees itself as a convener of community efforts, so many of the resources Counsel recommends are city and NGO programs
- C. Discussion
1. How to help students
 - a. After training, reach out to let students know you are available
 - b. Departments could send out a general email offering to support undocumented students and identifying specific faculty members who can provide assistance (handling students in emotional distress and also knowing how to guide professionally – what companies and how to navigate applications with questions about sponsorship and eligibility)
 - c. The Board of Regents are getting a very different message – that this is a top priority of the university, that does not match what we are hearing now
 - d. No conversation around people who have no DACA, and are considered undocumented
 - e. A website with resources would be very valuable
 - D. University Counsel follow-up
 1. Important issue for President Sundborg, who has written publicly about seeking a legislative position that cannot be removed via executive power
 2. Protections we offer
 - a. No discrimination on status in admissions, financial aid, institutional aid
 - b. FERPA privacy protection applies to all students, no matter status
 - c. We cannot protect social media or other public disclosures of status
 - d. SU does not voluntarily cooperate with ICE unless legally compelled to do so
 - e. Office of Diversity and Inclusion does have a webpage about policy and resources
 - f. Recent email this quarter from University Counsel’s office with resources for City of Seattle as well as the above webpage
 - g. Funds available for students to renew their DACA status through Diversity and Inclusion office
 3. Important to communicate to campus in many different ways – open forums, emails, webpages
 4. SU is part of several organizations, including American Council of Higher Education, AJCU and ICW, focusing on long term permanent legislation and advocacy efforts
- III. Motion on Technology Issues
- A. “The Academic Assembly (AcA) request that the Information Technology Service (ITS) make tangible improvements in the two following critical areas: (1) Onboarding of new hires (details to follow) (2) Maintaining computer software resources in the computer labs (details to follow). We will be reviewing the ITS progress in May 2018.”
 - B. Discussion
 1. Will post motion to Canvas group for discussion
 2. Need to include both staff and faculty for onboarding
 3. We shouldn’t need to give them a list of what is needed for onboarding
 4. Need to have a direct contact for the installation of lab software
 5. Motion seconded
- IV. Upcoming Program Reviews
- A. AcA process for review of regular, ongoing program reviews (for existing programs)

- B. AcA process has varied between in person and online discussion in years past, based upon other workload constraints
 - C. For this year, we will try online
 - D. Add PRC memos to Canvas group and then discuss online, if any AcA member wishes to request further information or have the program representatives attend a meeting in person, will move to that level
 - E. New program proposals will still automatically be reviewed at AcA, in person, with program representative and dean invited
- V. Commencement Ceremony**
- A. Timing – better to have people who can read names quickly
 - B. Location – Key Arena is not a normal SU venue, so always causes problems for students and parents
 - C. Inherently a slow process, students have worked really hard for this and we want to be respectful of that
 - D. Suggestion – have designated space for each program, for faculty and students to meet up for pictures, etc.
- VI. DACA Discussion, cont.**
- A. Estimate of 20-30 undocumented/DACA students on campus, could be higher
 - B. We need more training across campus on how to handle this
 - C. CAPS is under-resourced, faculty are sometimes not equipped to handle emotional issues
 - D. If university is putting resources into recruiting and providing financial aid for these students, there needs to be a long term plan to then support them
 - E. Important for faculty member to state their support in the classroom
 - F. SGSU is working on creating a university-wide task force on issue
 - G. Motion
 - 1. Mark Cohan and Arie Greenleaf will draft a motion for AcA consideration
 - 2. Issues: insist that administration be more vocal in their support of DACA students, resources need to be devoted to a safe space
- VII. Announcements**
- A. Faculty needed for dinner with Provost Candidate Nov. 6 – Michael Ng
 - 1. Athletic Advisory Board seeking AcA faculty representative – Arie Greenleaf
 - B. Dean’s Evaluation will need representatives in Winter Quarter
 - C. Non Tenure Track Pay Floor – committee convening to bring forth a motion