



Student Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2022

Circulated: April 12, 2022

Approved: April 22, 2022

Present: Harish Ganesh (Chair), Michael Atzmon (SACUA Liaison), Simon Cushing, Ashley Gearhardt, Martino Harmon (VP Student Life), Helen Look, Laura MacLatchy, Jessica Pasquale, Monica Porter, Connie Tingson Gatuz (AVP Student Life)

Absent: Charlie Koopmann, Jeannie Moody Novak, Amanda Peters, Xiomara Santamarina, Yaacov Ritov, Claire Liu, Peiyu Ryan Wang

Administrative: Pam Morris, Elizabeth Devlin

11:33 Chair Ganesh called the meeting to order. The committee approved the agenda. Chair Ganesh shared that the minutes from the February and March meeting will be circulated electronically for review and approval after the meeting. Chair Ganesh turned the floor over to VP Harmon for Student Life updates.

Student Life Updates – VP Harmon

VP Harmon shared with the committee that Student Life is excited to welcome the new Associate Vice President of Student Development, Learning and Social Education, Connie Tingson Gatuz. He indicated that AVP Tingson Gatuz will be a permanent part of the committee and working with the SRAC chair to design future meetings.

VP Harmon gave an overview of upcoming Student Life activities and updates on ongoing efforts.

Student Life will be working on high-risk messaging and management of student interactions over St. Patrick's Day and around March Madness. These efforts include launching a multi-layer messaging campaign to address the shift in student activities and the social stress as finals approach. They will be emailing students and providing them with resources and alternative opportunities to socialize. They have also implemented harm reduction approaches such as offering free bagels to students on St. Patrick's Day and other tips to share to encourage safer alcohol consumption.

VP Harmon shared that the UM Regents approved a north campus residential facility before COVID that was paused due to the pandemic. He indicated that the project is now underway. The project would add 1200 beds to north campus. In the future they hope to add a dining and health and wellness complex as part of the new development on north campus. He indicated that if the committee would like to learn more about the project a presentation will be made at the Regents' meeting next week.

VP Harmon indicated that the Ginsburg Center will be moving and there will be an announcement about the new building and the naming of the building at the upcoming Regents' meeting.



VP Harmon reflected on the work Student Life has done throughout the year, such as DEI, impact reports, educational programs support advocacy and activism, academic partnerships and have demonstrated the ongoing work of student life by sharing student stories.

VP Harmon extended a warm welcome and turned the floor over to AVP Tingson Gatuz to introduce herself to the committee.

Introduction of AVP for Student Development, Learning and Social Education

AVP Tingson Gatuz introduced herself to the committee and gave a background of her work in higher education. She worked at UM twenty years ago and moved to private higher education. She most recently worked at Madonna University where she served as the Vice President for Student Affairs and Mission Integration.

AVP Tingson Gatuz shared that a lot of her work revolved around the DEI space, and she views this as a central focus for this committee. She shared that she had launched a study abroad program to engage faculty with students, which was one of the largest at that time. She also obtained a Fulbright for faculty to join graduate students to the Philippines. She also led the COVID response team focusing on responding to students both in the short term and long term range. She thanked the committee for their warm welcome and looks forward to working with them in the future.

The committee members introduced themselves to AVP Tingson Gatuz.

Update and Results of the SSRR Amendment Process – Chair Ganesh

Chair Ganesh shared that he and Eric Wessel have meet with SRAC student representatives Clair Liu and Ryan Wang. He indicated that they had a productive discussion and received their input that was then incorporated into the final SSRR document that was shared with the committee this week. He encouraged the committee members to review the document before the voting starts. An email will be sent early next week to the committee to vote to finalize the proposed amendment language.

General Membership/SRAC Chair 2022-2023 Discussion

Chair Ganesh indicated that this meeting is the second to last meeting for the year and that they will be inviting the committee to participate in the final meeting in person if possible. VP Harmon would like to thank the committee for their hard work and engagement in the committee work for this year by providing a box lunch at the next meeting as a thank you.

Chair Ganesh invited committee members interested in chairing next year to reach out to him to share their interest and if they have any questions. VP Harmon thanked Chair Ganesh for his service, and he invited the new chair, once chosen, to reach out to him. He indicated that the new chair would have the support of Student Life in their role as chair.

12:22 pm Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Devlin
Faculty Governance Coordinator, Faculty Senate Office