



## Student Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2022

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**Present:** Jessica Pasquale (Chair), Marna Clowney-Robinson, Lilly Collins, Ashley Gearhardt, Martino Harmon (VP for Student Life), Marita R. Inglehart, Charlie Koopman, Amanda R. Peters, Connie Tingson Gatz (AVP Student Life), Eric Vandenberghe

**Absent:** Simon Cushing, Anouck Girard, Laura MacLatchy, David Potter

**Administrative:** India Hayes

**Guest:** Marsh Benz, Tom Lehker, Lindsey Mortenson, Judith Pennywell, Tom Sevig

Jessica Pasquale called the meeting to order at 11:30am.

The agenda was approved. The committee voted to approve the November 11, 2022 meeting minutes.

**Student Life Updates and Current Issues** | Dr. Martino Harmon – Vice President for Student Life

VP Harmon provided an update on recent Student Life events.

- **Vaccine Clinics** – We had a lot of success with the vaccine clinics that were provided on campus. The final Covid and Flu shot clinics concluded in December with over 4,000 vaccines administered during the fall semester—roughly about 50/50 with almost 2,000 covid vaccines and 2,000 flu shots administered. Dr. Harmon thanked UHS, Dining, Student Life Communications, and a few other groups for their team effort in helping with getting the message out and encouraging the campus community to go get their vaccines. Clinics will resume in January, with one clinic held weekly. Dates and locations of the clinics will be released later.
- **DEI 2.0** – During the planning year we developed plans to engage staff from Student Life and students. We have been working with staff on the campus climate survey and staff results, with opportunities for staff to learn about those results and participate in idea feedback sessions. In January we will launch the student engagement sessions which are being coordinated by the DEI leads in Student Life and the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

VP Harmon mentioned a few highlights from DEI 1.0 that included:



- **Student Celebration Event** – This event was held in October at the Michigan Union Ballroom and provided an opportunity to come together to celebrate the past 5 years of the DEI initiative and to set the stage for the next 5 years.
- **Trotter Multicultural Center** – The center opened during DEI 1.0 and the usage of space has been incredible. Trotter has held over 300+ events since July 2022 and over 30,000 visitors during the fall for various programs and events in Trotter. VP Harmon requested the SACUA committee members to help spread the word to encourage faculty who hold classes in Trotter to encourage their students to experience Trotter and learn more about the space.

Trotter also hosted the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI), which is another one of our accomplishments that was started during DEI 1.0. Over 1,000 students per year participated. It is one of the most impactful initiatives under DEI 1.0 because it has the ability for students to learn and transform in terms of how they engage in conversations across differences. Most students in the pilot reported becoming more self-aware and specifically expressed the motivation to grow because of that experience.

- **Student Accessibility and Accommodation Services (SAAS)** – The unit expanded to encompass services for students with disabilities as well as the testing centers, which will transition to Student Life and adaptive sports.

**Student Mental Health Initiatives Update** | Lindsey Mortenson – Chief Mental Health Officer, Marsha Benz – Wellness Coaching and Motivational Interview Lead, Todd Sevig – Director of Counseling & Psychological Services

Lindsey Mortenson, Todd Sevig, and Marsh Benz gave a presentation and shared slides on an update regarding [Student Mental Health Initiatives](#). The presentation provided an update on some of the major changes and recent events that have happened over the past few months.

**Mental Health Implementation Work Team on Academic Policies** | Tom Lehker, Ombudsperson, Judith Pennywell, Director of International Center

Tom Lehker and Judith Pennywell gave a presentation and shared slides on the [Mental Health Implementation Work Team on Academic Policies](#). The presentation laid out the workgroup's charge to identify key academic policies impacting students and provide recommendations as to ways in which the university and its academic units should alter its policies to reduce academic stress without compromising excellence.

### **General Membership Discussion & Feedback**

- Ashley Gearhardt thanked the presenters for their work on the student mental health initiatives and for prioritizing student mental health and well-being.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 pm.

Marsha Benz provided the members with a tour of the Wolverine Wellness Center following the adjournment of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

India Hayes  
Executive Assistant  
Office of the Vice President for Student Life