



## Student Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2023

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**Present:** Jessica Pasquale (Chair), Marna Clowney-Robinson, Lilly Collins, Simon Cushing, Anouck Girard, Connie Tingson Gatuz (AVP Student Life), Martino Harmon (VP for Student Life), Marita R. Inglehart, Charlie Koopman, Amanda R. Peters, David Potter, Eric Vandenberghe

**Absent:** Ashley Gearhardt, Laura MacLatchy

**Administrative:** India Hayes

**Guest:** None

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

The agenda was approved. The committee voted to approve the December 16, 2023, 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.

- **Palmer Field Temporary Recreational Facility** – The 23,000-square-foot Palmer Field Temporary Structure opened this morning! The existing CCRB (Central Campus Recreational Building) demolition has begun. Amenities in the temporary structure include strength and cardio equipment and a small indoor walking track, roughly 90 percent of what was available at the original CCRB.

Pending a Regent vote in February on the schematic design to build housing facilities on the Elbel Field site, we will be relocating the recreational sports fields, sand volleyball courts, and the Adventure Education Trips & Rental Center to other campus locations. Due to the move, we will lose about 50,000 – 70,000 square footage, however, enhancements including better lighting and synthetic turf will be added to the Mitchell East and West fields to allow for more usage. We will also be building a new synthetic turf field on Hubbard Road.

- **Public Health After Break** – We continue to host our popular walk-in vaccine clinics which are open to all University of Michigan Ann Arbor campus and community members. The clinics are held every Thursday. Information regarding clinic locations and times can be found on the UHS website.



- **The Resource Navigator Program** – The Resource Navigator Program started during the Winter 2020 semester, during the height of the pandemic. The program utilized volunteers from student life and across campus to check in and reach out to students who were isolated during the pandemic and whom we believed were not connected to the campus community. The program was designed to help these students with staying connected and to also find out what type of needs they had.

The Provost's Office supported the program as a part of our holistic institutional initiatives to address student mental health. With the additional support, we were able to hire a couple of staff members to provide oversight and training to student employees who work out of the Campus Information Center in the Michigan Union. The program is full of trained student advisors who can give their fellow students personalized recommendations and tips on thriving as a University of Michigan student.

### **Student Development, Learning, and Social Change Education Portfolio Updates & Highlights** | Connie Tingson Gatz – Associate Vice President, Student Life

Connie Tingson Gatz gave a presentation and shared slides on her [Student Development, Learning, and Social Change Education](#) portfolio, which includes: Ginsberg Center, Intergroup Relations, International Center, Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs, Student Conflict Resolution, Spectrum Center, Trotter Multicultural Center, and the University Career Center. The presentation provided an overview of each unit and its high-level updates.

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

David Potter had a question regarding the University Career Center program offerings and how we can streamline the processes to prevent reduplication and confusion amongst the students.

- Martino Harmon responded that decentralization across the campus often creates duplication and confusion for students and Student Life cannot dictate what programs other schools, colleges, and units provide. Our response to this is a partnership initiative that helps our units get involved in partnership activities, working with services that seem to be duplicative. We are also piloting an app that will help guide students to different services and programs that are offered on campus.

Connie Tingson Gatz also added that way-finding can be challenging when there is an abundance of resources. We also continue to partner with the Schools and Colleges who have career components.

David Potter also had a question about the International Center regarding a claim that the International Center is not efficient in processing the paperwork for international GSI.

- Connie Tingson Gatz responded that the International Center is working diligently to respond to requests for processing. In terms of resourcing, not all of what's resourcing the international centers is coming from a portion of the the international student fee to support the work of the International Center.

Jessica Pasquale had a question regarding the number of applications for jobs that are remote work and is it students that are wanting remote jobs, or is it employers that are looking for remote workers?



- Connie Tingson Gatuz quoted a Bloomberg finding that remote jobs are not location dependent, so applications can come from anywhere in the world, and they have found that 52% of the jobs that are being posted can be remote. It changes the landscape of who can make up the candidate pool.

With no further questions, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Following the adjournment of the meeting, members of the committee were given a tour of the Office of Student Conflict Resolution (OSCR), the University Career Center, and the International Center all located within the Student Activities Building.

Respectfully submitted,

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