



Student Relations Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2023

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Present: Jessica Pasquale (Chair), Ashley Gearhardt, Lilly Collins, Connie Tingson Gatuz (AVP Student Life), Martino Harmon (VP for Student Life), Marita R. Inglehart, Charlie Koopman, David Potter, Eric Vandenberghe

Absent: Marna Clowney-Robinson, Simon Cushing, Anouck Girard, Laura MacLatchy, Amanda R. Peters

Administrative: India Hayes

Guest: Nicole Banks, Sarah Daniels

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

The agenda was approved. The committee voted to approve the February 17, 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.

- **UWill** – We have expanded access to our mental health services and entered a contract with UWill in the summer of 2022. UWill is a resource vendor for teletherapy that augments Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) during peak periods and non-business hours. UWill is not designed to replace CAPS but is added as a complement to CAPS. We have launched this offering to all University of Michigan students, making 6 counseling sessions per year available to all students—undergraduate and graduate/professional. UWill provides students with access to:
 - Schedule 30-minute sessions.
 - Year-round access to UWill.
 - Seamless scheduling, allowing students to choose their counselor.
 - Appointments after business hours are available.
 - UWill has licensed counselors in different states, so students can select a counselor in the state they are in at that time.



- Students who exhaust their available 6 sessions have a backup bank of 2 additional sessions available to them.

The program was piloted over the past year and from this pilot we learned:

- More than 500 students enrolled in the program.
- The program received a 9/10-star rating from pilot participants
- Most students used UWill for anxiety, depression, and stress, usually focused on academic concerns, social isolation, and self-esteem.

In addition to launching the UWill program, we will also have an external review of CAPS through a national external reviewer called Keeler & Associates. They are looking at the program to see what gaps we have and how we can fill those gaps. We expect to receive that report in May.

- **Strategic Visioning 2034** – In January, President Santa J. Ono asked the university to come together in a joint effort to coordinate a year-long strategic visioning effort to chart U-M's path for the next 10 years. Student Life along with the other Vice President offices are supporting the President's Office by assisting them with promoting and hosting town halls for students next week specifically as part of the visioning process for "Vision 2034." Town halls for students are currently scheduled for March 21st, 22nd and 24th. We are hosting the events and the groups that are leading the process will gather feedback from the students. There will be opportunities for faculty and staff and other stakeholders to join other town halls for their stakeholder groups. The final strategic vision will be announced by President Ono in early 2024.
- **High-Risk Planning** - St. Patrick's Day is what we call a high-risk time. Wolverine Wellness, Dean of Students, CCI, Government Relations, and DPSS are working together to provide safe alternatives and encourage responsible decision-making. They are working together to promote campaigns like "Stay in the Blue", where we encourage students who choose to drink to do so responsibly. Additionally, teams of staff volunteers are helping with the annual Beyond the Diag St. Patrick's Day bagel distribution. This program is designed to not just get food to students who may be choosing to consume alcohol but to also share information with students about harm reduction, safe consumption of alcohol and other drugs, and other resources and support services that are available.
- Numerous alternative events that are available, include:
 - Alcohol-free St. Patrick's Day Party at the Michigan Union
 - "Lucky You-Mix" tonight, where students can learn an Irish dance, see magic tricks, get an airbrushed hat, and enjoy food.
 - Free St. Paddy's Day Sober Skate at Yost



Protests, Demonstrations, and Potentially Controversial Events: Planning and Response Protocol | Sarah Daniels, Associate Dean of Students

- Sarah Daniels gave a presentation and shared slides on [Protests, Demonstrations, and Potentially Controversial Events: Planning and Response Protocol](#). The presentation provided an overview of our approach to protests and demonstrations and controversial events.

Engaging UM Parents & Families: Expanded Programs and Partnerships | Nicole Banks, Associate Dean of Students

- Nicole Banks gave a presentation and shared slides on [Engaging UM Parents & Families: Expanded Programs and Partnerships](#). The presentation provided an overview of the programs and partnerships we offer to engage UM parents and families.

General Membership Discussion & Feedback

Marita Ingelhart inquired about what it meant regarding the UWill program when students can choose a therapist by social identity. Is it gender, race or is it more?

- Martino Harmon responded that when students sign up and complete their UWill profile that there are several categories that the student can choose from if they prefer a specific type of counselor they are connected with.

David Potter had a concern about GEO blocking access to buildings during the strike and what are the protocols and policies in place to prevent this?

- Sarah Daniels responded that this is mostly handled by DPSS and that they will assess situations, as it relates, to access to buildings.

Jessica Pasquale asked that when it comes to a controversial speaker, do we consult with our colleagues at other institutions to see how they handled the situation with that speaker and to get advice on how to best approach the situation.

- Sarah Daniels responded that yes, we do reach out to our counterparts at other institutions who have been in similar situations when preparing for a controversial speaker.

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

Amy White, Director of Michigan Union provided the members with a brief history about the Michigan Union following the adjournment of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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