



## **Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC)**

Minutes of Meeting: 1/19/24

Circulated: 2/8/24

Approved: 2/16/24

Present: Jamie Niehof, David Potter, Joel Scheuher, Simon Cushing (SACUA Liaison), David Mikkola, Martino Harmon (VP for Student Life), Connie Tingson Gatuz (Associate Vice President for Student Development, Learning, and Social Change Education), India Hayes (Office of Student Life), Ashley Gearhardt, Cindee Giffen, Anouck Girard, Jonathan Brennan, Charlie Koopman

Absent: Jessica Pasquale (Chair), Marna Clowney-Robinson, Marita R. Inglehart, Laura MacLatchy

### Guests:

*Mike Widen*, Director of Recreational Sports

*Steve Bodei*, Associate Director of the Barger Leadership Institute

*Mary Schlitt*, Associate Director of the Barger Leadership Institute

Faculty Senate Office: Eric Vandenberghe, Luke McCarthy

**11:36am-11:38am:** Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes, Announcements

The agenda was approved. The minutes for the December SRAC meeting were approved.

### **11:38am-11:57am: Student Life Updates and Current Issues**

Summary: Student Life held a training this week on proactive and response work for student activism on campus. If the demonstration is known in advance, it can be planned and addressed properly. This training took place to increase the number of people proficient in preparing for these demonstrations. It is suggested that further related trainings could take place moving forward. A question about policing is asked.

Wolverine Wellness and the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (CRLT) are collaborating on a program that is meant to check-in on the mental wellbeing of students. The wellness check-in program consists of a four question survey during class. This intervention has been found to reduce barriers for students who need help. The plan is to scale this program to reach as many first and second year students as possible.

Professor Angela Dillard has started her role as Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education on January 1st. Background is provided on the creation of this position. This position is meant to raise up students who have challenges that make succeeding in their studies more difficult. This came from a recommendation through the Student Mental Health Innovative Approaches Review Committee. A discussion of admissions take place.

Student Life has been having conversations with the Office of DEI on having constructive dialogue opportunities for students to share views on polarizing topics. The FSO Director



discussed potential avenues for collaboration.

Action: Update and Discussion

### **11:57am-12:27pm: Recreational Sports**

Summary: The guest was introduced by VP Harmon. The Office of Recreational Sports does not handle sports only, it is much more. It is estimated that 7 out of every 10 students utilize this office in some capacity. Facilities are available to alumni, staff, etc. for a membership fee. More info can be found on the [website](#).

The guest introduced the Hadley Family Recreation & Well-Being Center, which is currently under construction. Architecture renderings and floor plans are shared. The goals of the new facility include: create dynamic and desired spaces, increase space amount, open and visually connected space, develop inclusive space, produce flexible space, and create a “wow” factor.

Details regarding funding are shared. The building will have approximately 210,000 sf of space, which is +50% larger than old CCRB. The amount of input received by community stakeholders was described. There will be new types of facilities available in this facility that were unavailable at the old CCRB.

The temporary bubble facility is described. Architecture rendering of the new facility are shared. There will be many activities available. Areas of note include, but are not limited to: aquatics center, gymnasiums, strength area, cardio area, welcome center, climbing wall, racquetball court, squash court, expanded locker rooms. There will be a lot of natural light in the building. Current progress on the construction is shared. The locker room space is expanded. There will be individual spaces available. All showers are single use showers. Suggestions for improvement are shared.

One major administrative change is mentioned; Recreation Sports is moving to the Office of Student Life. This transition occurred at the start of January.

Action: Presentation and discussion

### **12:27pm-12:57pm: Barger Leadership Institute Partnership with Student Life**

Summary: The guests are introduced by VP Harmon. The Barger Leadership Institute offers opportunities for leadership experience, including courses in leadership, and relevant travel opportunities. They partner with a number of schools and colleges on campus. Centralizing leadership experiences on campus was important.

The Barger Leadership Institute offer a leadership certificate for those who complete the program. They offer a central hub that can promote relevant opportunities in one centralized place. The cohort of students taking place in this program is shared.

The core competencies of the Institute are shared: 12 points divided into 4 categories- communication, organizational change, emotional intelligence, and reflection. The curriculum priorities are shared.



There are training experiences for leadership provided. A lot of the programs are advocated for by students. Courses are discussed. There are 3-4 Cohort dinners that take place each year.

The program has the students create a personal leadership philosophy, and have reflections. Students are nominated for awards and scholarships through this program. A signed certificate and medallion are given upon completion of the program. Considerations for adding completion of this program to student transcripts are being made.

A point is made that this Institute is connecting leadership to the academic experience. A call is made for committee members to join the advisory committee for this group if interested.

Action: Presentation and discussion

**12:57pm:** Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Vandenberghe  
Faculty Governance Coordinator  
Faculty Senate Office