Student Relations Advisory Committee

February 10, 2003
12:00-2:00
Bates Room
Michigan Union

Present: Frank Cianciola, Gary Faerber, Royster Harper, Jong-Jin Kim, Patricia King, Chair Barbara MacAdam, Karen Reiman-Sendi, Beth Powell (Staff)

Absent: Pierce Beckham, Al Burdi, Damon Fairfield, Martin Gold, Dana Fair, Marita Inglehart, Kathy Irwin, Melissa Mercer, Simone Himbealt Taylor, Ed Willis, Phil Savage, Ian Scott

Guests: Dan Sharphorn, Jack Bernard

Approval of Minutes and Announcements
Minutes were approved unanimously without change.

Process for SRAC’s Amendment Review and Recommendations

There was a brief discussion of the process and possible shape of the final recommendation document to President Coleman. The group agreed that a logical format would be to include SRAC’s recommendation to support/not support each amendment and include the rationale for each of our recommendations.

- If there is unanimous support for an amendment, we can include that with our rationale, either confirming the rationale outlined by MSA or expanding on our separate reasons for support.

- If there is unanimous agreement to not support the amendment, that recommendation should be accompanied by our rationale for not supporting the proposed change.

- Where there is agreement to support a slightly altered version of the amendment we can forward our suggested changes to MSA, giving them the opportunity to concur if they so choose.
Finally if there is a split decision on any amendment, the vote can be recorded with the rationale for both sides. All documents that we have reviewed can be included as an appendix.

Since it may be difficult to get all members of the committee present at a scheduled meeting, it will be important to devise a process for members to express their views on the amendment through email or other discussion means.

The next scheduled SRAC meeting is for March 28, and we should be prepared for a formal vote at that meeting. It was noted that an important opportunity for campus input in addition to the web site, was the upcoming forum on the proposed amendments scheduled for February 13 at 2 p.m. in the Michigan Union Kuenzel Room.

**Review and Discussion of Proposed Amendments**

Members present discussed each amendment and accompanying support statement from MSA, and also reviewed the input received from the Civil Liberties Board, from the General Counsel’s office, and from OSCR. After a lengthy discussion, members indicated their preliminary thinking at this time as follows:

1. **Gender Identity Amendment**
   All five committee members present indicated support for this change.

2. **Off-campus Violations Amendment**
   All five committee members present indicated they are not prepared to support this change at this time.

3. **Attorney Representation Amendment**
   All five committee members present agreed that clarifying language should be added to the Statement to ensure that students understand that their accompanying person can be an attorney, although not able to participate directly in the proceedings. At the committee members’ request, Dan Sharphorn agreed to draft a change in language for the committee to review.
   All five committee members indicated they would support the clarification in language and that they did not support the proposed amendment.

4. **Open Hearings at Accused’s request Amendment**
   All five members present indicated they do not support this amendment.

5. **Standard of Proof Amendment**
   All five members present indicated their support for this amendment.

6. **Timeline for Appeals Amendments**
   It was decided to add language that says that the ten days that the students have to appeal starts when the student is informed of the Dean’s decision.
All five members present support this amendment with the change in language.

7. Appointment for Vacant Seats Amendments
All five committee members present indicated they do not support this amendment

Next Steps
In the discussion of next steps, all staff members agreed that after the input from the student forum, we would try to get consensus of these issues by email with input from all SRAC members, so that we could get a draft set of recommendations completed in advance of our March meeting.

Chair MacAdam adjourned the meeting at 1:44

Minutes Respectfully Submitted
Beth Powell
SACUA Support Staff