

COMMITTEE ON STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT

END OF YEAR REPORT, 2017 - 2018

OUR CHARGE

To promote the academic success of students by considering, evaluating, and recommending policies and procedures in the areas of advising, financial aid, registration, admissions, student life, career development, and any other areas of student academic interest that may be brought before it.

MEMBERS FOR 2016-2017 STUDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT COMMITTEE

- Dinsmoor, Laura (SECS) 2015-2018 CHAIR
- Kashiwagi-Wood, Akiko (CAS) 2015-2018
- Choi, Myung (SHS) 2015-2018
- Aigbedo, Henry (SBA) 2017-2020
- Jiang, Lan (CAS) 2016-2019
- Mishack, Lena (President, Student Congress) 2017-2018 (could not attend due to schedule conflicts)
- Sanders, Elijah (Student Congress) 2017-2018
- OPEN (Graduate Student) 2017-2018 (Never assigned)
- Hermsen, Cindy (SVPAA Designee) 2016-2017 Ex-officio and non-voting
- Joa, Yoel (SVPAA Designee) 2017-2018 Ex-officio and non-voting
- Hurse, Jessie (Dean of Students Designee) 2017-2018 Ex-officio and non-voting
- Cole, Meaghan (Professional Advising Council) 2015-2018 Ex-officio and non- voting

SEPTEMBER 2017 COMMITTEE MEETING

The Senate Steering Committee requested that the Student Academic Support Committee consider a proposed Student Bereavement Policy forwarded to them by a student group -Actively Moving Forward. After introductions for new members, the group discussed their initial attitude regarding if the policy was needed. The group agreed it was and put together a plan to review other university policies, and determined who else on campus should be invited to the meeting to answer questions.

OCTOBER 2017 COMMITTEE MEETING

Cindy Hermsen, the Director Financial Aid, was invited to the October meeting. She answered many of the committee's questions regarding the topics under review and said they were already working with students regarding this.

After Cindy left we started our discussion on information that was gathered from other universities.

Laura asked the group to think about and talk to others before the next meeting to determine

- Who would benefit from our recommendations, and how they would benefit
- What roadblocks might we encounter
- Would our recommendation cost money
- Who did we need to speak with on campus about this
- How would this effect OU's bottom line in terms of enrollment and retention
- What is our competition doing

NOVEMBER 2017 – FEBRUARY 2018 MEETINGS

During these meetings we continued to review other school policies and compare to the proposed policies. We began drafting the new version of the policy for OU based on something that was easy to understand, clarified wording but allowed for exceptions by request to the Dean of Students office, and identified the responsibilities of the various parties involved.

MARCH/APRIL 2018

The group finalized their recommendation for the Student Bereavement Leave policy and forwarded it to Michelle Piskulich. Michelle asked Laura Dinsmoor to prepare a brief presentation of the policy for the Senate Meeting on April 19th. Laura presented the policy to the Senate and it was approved.

After the meeting, Laura Dinsmoor reached out to the Dean of Students office to determine how the committee could assist in creating the form students would use to request the leave. As of early June, Laura has not received a reply yet.

COMMITTEE

Laura would like to thank her committee members for their participation this year. None of this work could have been accomplished without them.