

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
PROVOST'S COUNCIL

John Day, Kathleen Dean, Lauren Bowen, Jeanne Colleran, Sherri Crahen, Barbara D'Ambrosia, Dwight Hahn, Jim Krukones, Mark McCarthy, Sheila McGinn, Paul V. Murphy, Karen Schuele, Brian Williams, David Wong, Sheri Young.

February 13, 2013
Minutes

Present: J. Day, L. Bowen, J. Colleran, S. Crahen, B. D'Ambrosia, K. Dean, D. Hahn, J. Krukones, M. McCarthy, S. McGinn, P. Murphy, K. Schuele, B. Williams, D. Wong.

J. Day called the meeting to order at 9:20 am. He noted that in light of the last meeting's discussion regarding the bias incidents on campus, we would receive a number of updates.

L. Bowen reported that the Diversity Steering Committee met recently after the incidents, and gave an update on their discussions. The steering committee noted a need to improve access and equity within the hiring practices for staff and administrators, and have drafted a document to strengthen diversity in hiring. The committee discussed the curricular and cultural climate and the importance of the understanding of diversity in the proposed new curriculum. They reported the need to sustain momentum from events and encourage attendance, citing a lack of energy at events.

L. Bowen noted that the Diversity Steering Committee needs to do a better job of sharing data, and the need to do more and better education around the bias campaign. On a positive note, as a result of the recent incidents, more students know about the bias tool. Now, we need to figure out how to do more regarding intervention.

L. Bowen asked for feedback regarding priorities and next steps. Suggestions were made for reading groups and intergroup dialogues. A suggestion was made that money be made available for faculty development, similar to money available for course development. The importance of bystander responsibility was noted, along with the ability of all of us to respond when something occurs. It is hoped that we can keep momentum going in order to make the transition for the new Diversity Officer as seamless as possible.

J. Day reported that the Diversity Search Committee was meeting later today and the search will be going forward. He will make an announcement to the University community when committee membership is completed. He noted that the Provost's Council provides interlocking opportunities for conversation along divisions, and that members should take advantage of this.

M. McCarthy updated the committee on the Murphy Project. Murphy will close May, 2013, until August, 2014, resulting in a tight timeline for renovation. While this reduces space available, we will respond as best we can and provide support to help students find alternative living space. Freshman and sophomores are required to live on campus or at home. The housing application process starts next week, and sophomores have priority for selection of space. We will be tripling students in rooms at a reduced rate. Newly instituted this year will be differential pricing on housing, which is a common practice at other universities.

It is important to note that we will retain "cohort housing" which will help with programmatic events and provide opportunities specific to freshmen experience re: advising, etc. A suggestion was made to also promote the use of the Learning Commons in the Library

M. McCarthy then spoke on the Protection of Minors Policy, which will apply to on- or off-campus programs involving minors not registered as students. There will be a need to catalog all programs involving minors. It will be under the purview of the vice president of the area to decide whether a

program falls under the policy. The policy will be created based on best practices, and will include on-line training for those administering programs and background checks. The goal is to get out a broad policy by March.

There was discussion regarding events involving alcohol. It was noted that students have to adhere to the alcohol policy, and faculty need to question what is their own responsibility and liability.

B. Williams reported on admission data as a context for discussing focused advising, noting where we are in the recruiting cycle and what we are doing new and different to help enrollment. He reported that aggregate is 6% ahead of last year and quality has gone up. We are 11% ahead in offerings of acceptance, and are in a good position for working on the financial aid end of the process.

B. Williams noted two things that are being done differently: asking students about their professional goals, and the tracking of interest in concentration and minors. While we previously listed up to 2 majors and minors, concentration and tracks were added so students can see the depth of what we offer and we can then capture data regarding academic interest.

B. Williams distributed a three-year history of applications showing interest of students, a summary of which showed that only 4% of students were undeclared. Students are becoming more precise, and this is where cohort advising leverages what students are interested in and informs a path for their major/minor. It was noted that advising isn't major specific; it is a combination of interests that starts the advising process to see what the student is thinking of.

M. Moroney noted that advising is thinking of matriculation to graduation, ultimately talking about retention and graduation. She reported that last year there was a large group of students that were undeclared as juniors and seniors, and as a result, were not getting advising information from departments or information regarding major exams and internships. An undeclared hold was placed on their record, and a message was sent to students and advisors that the student needed to declare or commit to a program of study that they could complete.

She noted the improvements made to the Early Alert, adding more intervention tools which allow faculty to note specific concerns. This allowed the deans to identify freshmen not being successful, and to assist them with schedule adjustments, tutoring and support services. M. Moroney reported cohort advising is in flux. Plans are to: add vocation discernment to summer advising, including career services and summer orientation; to ask students what they need from faculty advisors; and to ask students what their areas of interest are and to review their schedule to see if match up.

M. Moroney questioned how much information should be sent before orientation. A suggestion was made that departments send letters to students who show an interest in their area.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lovequist