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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee Meeting, Thursday, November 29, 2007

Arts & Sciences Student Life Committee

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Student Life Committee for the Arts and Science

Minutes for November 29, 2007

Cornell Social Science # 249

12:30 – 1:45 PM

Membership: Paul Harris (Chair), Julian Chambliss, Kim Dennis, Walker Hamby (SGA Rep), Drew Horsburgh (SGA Rep), Madeline Kovarik, Ken Miller (Staff Rep.), Pennie Parker, Jennifer Queen, Katie Sutherland,

Minutes from previous meeting unanimously approved.

Announcements –

Executive committee update regarding faculty salary issue. It has been referred to a committee.

There are two V.P. (Finance & Institutional Advancement) searches going on at this time. A search firm has been hired.

PSC will be holding colloquial meetings regarding family leave. Meetings will also be held regarding the strategic marketing initiative.

Old Business –

Faculty & Staff Involvement in Co-Curriculum –

- Paul Harris has received limited survey questions. Please e-mail Paul Harris questions by January. We will address these questions at the first meeting during the spring issue.

Dormitory and Admissions Tours -

- Paul Harris led a discussion regarding the tours committee members have taken over the past through weeks. General comments were that most committee members would not like to live in Pugsley. McKean does not offer a comfortable student environment and has a strong odor that permeates the building. It was expressed that there is inconsistency in the living conditions of Ward and McKean when both residents cost the same amount. Showing parents only Ward may lead to disillusionment when a freshman is not assigned to that residence. A discussion occurred regarding housing freshman in the newest dorm.
- Admissions Tour – Tour guides are in a prime position to be public relation representatives of the college. Points discussed included tour topic deficiencies in the area of academic discussion, campus safety, unique curricula options, and faculty/student collaborations. Tours need to be careful of selling the ‘country club atmosphere’.
- Ken Miller shared Rollins survey results regarding why students did not return to the campus. So far in fall 2007 nine students have been hospitalized due to substance abuse.

- Pennie Parker indicated that sports recruitment is easy due to the on campus environment. Student athletes visit the campus and want to attend here.
- Walker Hamby stressed that when a student or parent asks “Is college hard?” the answer should always be “Yes, it is harder than high school.” The rigor of academic life should be emphasized.
- Drew Horsburgh stated that the Office of Multicultural Affairs Phone-A-Thon has been contacting every non-white student who submitted an interest card to Admissions. Due to their efforts, interest in Rollins has increased. He further stated that even beyond cultural or ethnic diversity Rollins needs to expand the diversity of thought on the campus. Minneapolis, Denver, Chicago have been target cities to recruit students. He feels that the campus is taking significant initiatives in this area.
- Jennifer Queen initiated a discussion of tour guide. It was discussed that jeans (or similar) and a neat looking Rollins admissions shirt was appropriate.
- Ken Miller questioned “Does the current admission’s tour represent who we are right now?” Katie Sutherland said that showing the English classroom without showing a balance of other classroom environments does not represent Rollins learning environments.
- Drew Horsburgh stated that there are five facts that they are directed to include during the tour. The tour guide adds their personal accounts.
- Paul Harris shared that tour guides should emphasize academics to higher degree than ‘laying out at the pool’ and other areas that stress a carefree lifestyle.
- Walker Hamby and Drew Horsburgh shared stories they had heard about Rollins prior to their attending. The emphasis was that Rollins was a party school.
- Ken Miller indicated that each year there appears to be a cluster of students who are having difficulty adjusting to the rules of dormitory life. The residential location of this cluster changes each year. In fall 2007 it appears this cluster is located on the third and fourth floors of McKean.
- Drew Horsburgh stated that the Community Hearing Council is becoming increasingly frustrated of repeatedly hearing cases of alcohol use by the same person. Ken Miller has seen the ‘pendulum’ swing and that the college is allowing more incidents because of the effort to council students.

Meeting closed at 1:45 PM.