

## PSAC Meeting 11.22.13

**The Program Student Advisory committee convened at 12:00pm. The following people were present:**

**Ebony Iheanacho, {position}, Riece Hamilton, [position], Nicole Alers, Fitkeesha Beckford, Jennifer Ling. Jessica Moger, Chair, presided.**

### Social

- Christmas Party – December 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00pm in the FamilyWorks class room.
- Jenny Jolly and Riece Hamilton are coordinating.

### Next Semester Meetings

- Meetings will switch back and forth between weekend meetings and weekday meetings to accommodate 2<sup>nd</sup> years schedules.
- Attendance policy will be revisited.

### Fundraising

- PSAC came up with the idea to fundraise to be able to do things that the faculty weren't able to do because of bureaucratic reasons.
- Harvey's will be the first fundraiser/outreach which will be in January
- T-shirts/Polos: Nicole and Fitkeesha came up with an everyday outreach wear t-shirt and polo for presentations/working the front desk.
  - Martha and Kate are talking about implementing these as mandatory (but it is not implemented yet).
  - T-shirts should be finalized by January. Polo's shouldn't be any more than \$15 and the T-shirts will be \$10.

### SLOs

- Kate wants us to take over analyzing the graphs of the surveys on what students would like more of in the program.
- Surveys will be administered late spring. Kate and Jessica will run the data of the graphs. PSAC will meet and then will have another town-hall meeting to see what everyone thinks about what changes must be implemented in order to improve coordination between program and SLOs based on student survey data.

### Commencement/Hooding Ceremony

- Hooding Ceremony planned on August 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:00-12:00pm. Location: Bailey Science Center Auditorium.

- Inviting the President to see if he'll come to our hooding ceremony.
  - Trying to see if he would be able to come, shake hands, get diploma covers etc. to make it as close to a commencement as possible. If the president couldn't then she would see if she could get the graduate dean of admissions to come. Regardless the hooding ceremony would still be happening.
  - Family Thank-You Video recordings, pictures (send to Riece) for when the hooding ceremony is happening. To play when the students are walking across the stage.
  - Riece was talking about having a huge party after the hooding ceremony. With a DJ and food etc. Mathis Auditorium? Or other locations: Ballrooms, Hotel Party Rooms, etc.
  - Masters students no longer get hooded at commencement. Masters students are mixed with undergraduates. *New Restriction*: You cannot walk early (wouldn't be able to walk in May).
  - Jessica cautions everyone to not bombard him with attacking emails because we are trying to get him to come to our hooding ceremony.
  - Ebony expressed concern about the long term effects. Should we be focusing our efforts on getting the curriculum changed to one that graduates in May?
    - Jessica: We are trying to cope with the decisions that the university made for us.
  - Kate is trying to provide an avenue to get closest to commencement as possible for her students. The hooding ceremony will happen regardless. Everything else is up in the air. It is up to the students to decide what to do next. In previous years, students fought for this hooding ceremony because it is more personal and was taken away because it took students away from the University Commencement.
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- There were different ideas that were being discussed.
  - 1. Changing the Curriculum
  - 2. Would a hooding ceremony enough?
  - 3. Fighting to walk early, for the time being, most likely will not work but seems to be the popular idea
  - Riece wants the president to come. The diploma covers and hooding ceremony wouldn't be enough. Wants to present the fight bonded with the other masters programs that walk in the summer.
  - If the invitation does go to the President when will it go out? He should have at least a three month deadline.
  - Everyone knows that no one will come back four months post-graduation to walk.
  - Jennifer Ling mentioned having a person who will be the ring-leader of the letter writing etc. Wants to figure out which programs do graduate in the summer.
  - Tiffany suggested going to the Graduate Student Association so more coordination could occur.

- Ebony mentioned PSAC is the programs government group, feels like it's our responsibility to do the research about this. Jessica clarified is an advisory committee not a governing body. We've only taken more on because we saw things that were out of the professors hands could be handled by students, such as fundraising for student needs.
- Jessica's idea: We could set up a meeting and advertise it to the graduate programs and have a discussion to see if the other schools want to band together.
- Jessica is concerned that not a lot of people care about commencement because not that many people attended the meeting. Jessica wants to create a compromise because she thinks commencement is unrealistic.
- These minutes will be going out to see if we can prompt more student participation.
- Jennifer Ling wants to do a ballot box/survey.