IFC Student Affairs Subcommittee Meeting
October 22, 2010

Attendees: Darrell Brown, Jason Spratt, John Hassell, Melvin Wininger, May Jafari, Norleen Pomerantz, Ron Sandwina, Sarah Horton-Deutsch, Sharon Jamison, Tralicia Powell, Robert Yost, Courtney Robertson

Excused: Barry Barker, Carolyn Black, Mark Bannatyne

Absent: Shari Hill

The meeting was held in BS 3032 from 10 am until 12 noon. Following introductions, the committee discussed several items to be considered during the year. The main focus was on student, faculty, and staff wellness.

The first item has been discussed many times over the past several years including a meeting of this committee last year. This somewhat complex issue includes both the physical and mental wellness of individuals on campus. While IUPUI does offer some support services for individuals in need, these are limited and there is a need to improve and expand the program. For example, Julie Lash the CAPS Director has noted that students in distress who use their services are 1.5 times more likely to graduate compared to their peers in distress. It was also noted that IU Bloomington imposes a $125.00 student fee to cover these services while IUPUI does not. This committee and others involved with providing these services recognize the need for a full service health and wellness center with a doctor and a full complement of support personnel and staff. The School of Nursing has been providing support for nursing students in distress. One question raised by the committee was whether students doing their clinicals might be able to assist at the IUPUI center in the future. Currently there is no waiting list at CAPS but this does change over the course of a semester. V.C. Pomerantz noted that future new housing would be on Vermont Street and this might be a good way to combine student living into a housing and activity center.

The second item, intramural sports, ties in with the first. The athletic committee chaired by Bob Sandy is in the process of reviewing intramurals and a self study is being conducted by a committee out of Trudy Banta’s office. A formal review is scheduled for November 12, 2010. Bob is also conducting a study on health and student support services. The athletic committee and this committee recognize the need to improve the intramural program. It was noted that in addition to improving student wellness intramural sports provides connections to the campus and individual peers. Ron is on the athletic committee and he will be able to keep us informed of any developments. Vice Chancellor Whiney’s and now Pomerantz’s “wish list” includes an IUPUI fitness and wellness center. The University of Alabama has a model fitness and wellness center. Robert will invite Bob Sandy to a future meeting.

The third item is food on campus. With many of the current selections in the food court and vending machines we are not teaching and providing examples of a healthy life style. In addition, without going to the hospital or University Hotel, the only evening food service for students is vending machines. The
committee noted the current surplus of fast foods along with the cost, proportions, and variety. Students on a meal plan wishing to have a later dinner have no options. Chartwell’s is in conversations with the university to make some adjustments in these areas. Vice Chancellor Rhodes is investigating healthier options, later closing hours, better use of the food services. One question is the possibility of satellite food areas like we had in the past such as in University College. V.C. Pomerantz noted that the fast food on campus is more expensive than the same items off campus and that all you can eat buffets are actually a very economical way to feed large numbers of people.

The fourth item is a carryover from last year and will be an action item this year. The Student Code of Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct needs to be updated to better align with best practices, correct terminology, and codes of peer institutions. IUPUI needs to also look at how to include graduate students under the Code. Harassment seems to be a bigger issue with graduate students. The professional schools on campus often consult with Jason when they have a potential case of student misconduct. Tralicia’s office serves as a repository for misconduct issues involving students. Bloomington and IUPUI do share data bases.

A review committee chaired by Tralicia looked at the personal misconduct procedure section of the current Code. The committee looked at Codes from peer institutions as well as best practices. The goal is to try to get away from words like judicial, testify, and beyond a reasonable doubt which are associated more with courtroom proceedings. It is better to focus on the educational opportunity and learning from one’s mistakes. Robert will send a copy of the revised document to the S.A. committee. Members should provide any feedback to Tralicia by November 12. The graduate and undergraduate student governments will also discuss the document at their next meeting. The time line is to have a first reading at the January meeting of the IFC.

Other items:
V.C. Pomerantz reported the basement of the campus center will be finished to include a 150 seat theater, a large choral room, and three music practice rooms.

IUPUI is the University of Choice for veterans attending college. Robert will invite Winnie Wilson from our veteran’s affairs office to a future meeting.

Report from the undergraduate student government by Courtney

The undergraduates (USG) have been discussing both health and wellness and CAPS. They will be supporting a resolution to the Trustees addressing the need for a wellness center. They will be presenting a second resolution supporting the need for additional student housing.

The USG is working with V.C. Rhodes on changes to the campus food service. In addition to what has been mentioned above, they would like to see the cheap option day occur on a day other than Fridays.
USG is looking into the possibility of a 24 hour space for students. The possibilities include an area in University Library or the campus center. Security and access are the main issues as well as any costs involved in keeping a space open.

USG is suggesting that classes start earlier in the day and use the early time slot that is not underutilized. They also would like to see more Friday classes.

USG would like to investigate the incorporation of reading days in the calendar before finals. This topic was discussed last year by this committee. At that time it was felt that there was no realistic way to adjust this section of the calendar and still meet the needs of the registrar and faculty for posting final grades in the required time frame.

Future topics and discussion items:
Campus orientation and what happens during the sessions. Establishing an honor code – the pluses and minuses. Student Code – name, difficulty in finding it, incorporation of core values such as in nursing.