

2018-2019 Year-End Committee Report

Committee:	Student Affairs
Charge:	collaborates with Northwestern student governance associations on issues involving faculty-student interaction.
Chair:	Karen Springen
# of Meetings:	Two to three per quarter

Completed Business and/or Accomplishments

- Introduced (with Educational Affairs) a resolution on pronouns names (passed)
- Introduced a resolution that encourages faculty to list NUhelp on their syllabi (passed)
- Met with student leaders, including (in alphabetical order): Emily Ash (Associated Student Government president for 2018-19), Valerie Bullock (Graduate Leadership & Advocacy Council president for 2019-20), Angel German Espinosa Coarasa (president of the Graduate International Student Association for 2018-19), Isabel Dobbel (ASG president for 2019-20), Ju Ying Shang (president of GLAC for 2018-19)
- Connected other Faculty Senate committees with student leaders (e.g., Social Responsibility for its resolution that encourages the university not to invest in tobacco-related companies)
- Amplified student voices by sharing concerns and ideas with Faculty Senate and university leadership. For example, both undergraduate and graduates students would like more CAPS counselors on both the Evanston and Chicago campuses – and counselors to be available beyond the 9-to-5 schedule when many of them are working or in classes. Also, international students were unhappy with a new \$50 tech fee added in September 2018. Like others, we raised the issue with administrators, who eliminated the charge.
- Brought together graduate student leaders on the Chicago campus to meet with the student affairs committee and each other. Ph.D. students can feel secluded and overlooked.
- Worked with Educational Affairs and students to combat CTEC problems such as gender bias.

Unfinished/Continuing Business

- Push for faculty and TA's to receive mental-health training that includes identifying students in possible stress and knowing how best to encourage them to seek help.
- Promote more CAPS support/on-campus counselors. (Students complain about referrals to therapists off campus because they don't have the time, money or transportation for these visits.)
- Encourage faculty to include Faculty Senate-suggested wording about mental health in syllabi.
- Build faculty awareness about course-materials affordability. Urge professors to include costs on Caesar and on Canvas, to email classes the previous quarter to allow enough time for bargain shopping for inexpensive books, and to reserve textbooks in the library.
- Encourage CAPS to keep track of individuals who get Question-Persuade-Refer training to prevent suicides and to communicate that information
- Offer more QPR courses and refresher courses.
- Get student voices in the "neighborhoods" report on residential reports. How would sororities and fraternities work?

New Business for Next Year

- Follow up to try to get the university to follow the recommendations in the Faculty Senate resolution about pronouns and names.
- Encourage the university to give office space to humanities graduate students who lack it.
- Work with students and administrators on a short-term, opt-in mental health absence policy.
- Support graduate students in their efforts to get more funding.
- Continue to proactively reach out to undergraduate and graduate student leaders and groups so we understand their concerns.