

**Board of Trustees  
Student Affairs Committee Meeting  
Thursday, April 17, 2014  
Minutes**

**Trustees Present:**

Errol Schwartz  
Jerome Shelton  
Kenneth Isaacs

**Trustees Absent:**

Christopher Bell

**Staff Present:**

Valerie Epps, Vice President, Student Affairs  
James Contreras, Office of Financial Aid  
Juanita Gray, Director, Residence Life  
Stacie Mills, Office of the General Counsel  
Beverly Franklin, Executive Secretary, Board of Trustees

**Call to Order and roll Call**

Chair Schwartz called the meeting to order at 6:07. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

**Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

The agenda was revised. Financial Aid and the A-133 Update were moved to the next items on the agenda.

**Financial Aid and A-133 Update**

Mr. Contreras reported \$44 million was disbursed in student aid. Student loan borrowing has continued to increase at a rapid pace. For the 2014/2015 year, the Federal Pell Grant will increase by \$85, from \$5,645 to \$5,730. The work study program was cut with twenty-two to twenty-five fewer students receiving funding in that program.

Additional items discussed included:

- FAFSA College Expo was held in collaboration with DC OSSE and the US Department of Education;
- Approximately \$300,000 was disbursed from the Mayor's Scholarship Fund;
- Implementation of financial literacy in orientations and the class curriculum; and
- Continued liquidation of the Perkins Loan program.

Chair Schwartz spoke about the three-year default rate. Mr. Contreras explained that in 2009, the two-year cohort default rate was 7.1 percent. In 2010, the three-year cohort default rate was 18.6 percent. The student loan debt is \$22 million.

Mr. Contreras reported that they have been working with the U.S. Department of Education Minority Serving Team. Dr. Epps said she, Mr. Contreras and Colin Touhey (Community College) participated in a conference call with the Department of Education regarding training for the staff in preparation for the next A-133 audit.

## **Health Services**

Dr. Epps introduced the health insurance brokers and the new Director of the Student Health Center. Mr. David Opperman is the contact person for United Health Care. Mr. Todd Griffin (Conner, Strong and Buckelew), is the department casualty insurance broker for the university. And, Ms. Fawna Shultie is the account manager (Conner, Strong and Buckelew) and handles the day to day operations for the university insurance. Mr. Opperman presented the 2014 plan modifications which included:

- Maximum benefit increase from \$500,000 to unlimited benefit;
- Pre-existing conditions exclusion has been removed;
- All deductibles, copays, coinsurance, and policy deductibles go towards the out of pocket maximum. Previously, only the coinsurance provision went towards the out of pocket maximum;
- No set limits for durable medical equipment, accident related dental or elective abortion.

Mr. Griffin reported that in addition to the benefits required by PPACA (Patient Protection and Affordability Act), the District of Columbia requires specific benefits that include infertility services, transplants, medical foods, growth hormones, and blood products.

The coinsurance provisions for in-network are eighty percent and six percent for out of network. The renewal premium represents a \$56 increase.

Mr. Opperman indicated 317 students have taken advantage of the plan so far this year, representing nineteen percent of the insured population. Of the 317 students, seventeen had claims paid over \$25,000. By the end of the first year, approximately \$1.3 million of claims will be paid. For the first six months, approximately \$300,000 has been paid in claims.

Mr. Opperman discussed the student health center on campus. The plan reimburses all expenses for the care that is handled at the center. He explained that students have three tiers of care including the student health center where they receive care at 100 percent with no copays and no deductibles and in-network where students are subject to deductibles and copays.

Mr. Opperman reported that after the fall enrollment, 1,190 students enrolled in the health plan and an additional 476 students were added during the spring semester. Of the total number of students, only two spouses and two children are covered. They expect the annualized premium for the student insurance plan will be \$1,677,584. The anticipated final number of claims to be paid will be \$1,291,740. Thirty-three percent of the premiums paid were for prescription drugs; 18.7% were for students who had an inpatient admissions for room, board and hospital miscellaneous expenses; 10.23% of the claims paid to date have been reimbursed to the student health center for charges for students seeking care at the center; 9% for traditional physician visits; approximately 8% for emergency room visits; 7% for surgeries; and 6.7% for labs and x-rays.

## **Housing**

Dr. Epps introduced Ms. Juanita Gray, new Director of Residence Life. Ms. Gray reported she is working on the summer conference schedules, several projects including changing locks in the current buildings to university regulated locks, and closing information for the students.

There are 146 bed spaces (136 beds filled and 10 beds not filled). Several applications have been filed for the fall. Ms. Gray expects the spaces to be completely full for the fall semester. She noted tours of the apartments are being offered for students interested in the housing.

#### **Enrollment Update**

Dr. Epps did not have any information to report.

#### **Records Management**

Dr. Epps has been working with the Office of Information Technology concerning a workshop for the records management liaisons. Funds are not available for the complete records management proposal, but a request will be submitted to budget to be able to phase in the program.

#### **Student Life**

Dr. Epps is working on a Student Bill of Rights which will be included in the Student Handbook and distributed at the orientation classes.

#### **Student Elections**

Dr. Epps reported the student elections are still in progress and students are voting via the internet. The two candidates who ran for the student member to the Board of Trustees were declared ineligible. Neither candidate had the required number of signatures. Dr. Epps noted the number of required signatures continues to be challenge. The problem was addressed with the president, the provost and the legal team. It was decided they would hold an election in the fall for the student trustee position.

There was some discussion regarding the student trustee elections. Trustee Isaacs noted a delay in the election would leave the students unrepresented in the interim. His term will end on May 15. Ms. Mills reported there are strict dates for when the elections happens, however, there are no eligible candidates.

Ms. Mills reported that in the Audit, Administration and Governance Committee meeting they are looking at revising DCMR Chapters 1 and 2. Chapter 1 includes the section on the student trustees. Dr. Epps reported the Board has sent a precedent, in the past, of reducing the number of signatures. Ms. Mills further explained that this was temporary and for one election. The committee discussed the required number of signatures and the election process.

Trustee Shelton asked about the required number of signatures for alumni trustees. Ms. Mills will research the number and provide Mr. Shelton with the correct number of signatures for the alumni trustee elections.

#### **Counseling Center**

Dr. Epps reported the counseling center is looking at staffing for some of the continuation grants. They are preparing for the fall orientation and open house.

#### **Veterans Affairs**

Dr. Epps reported the VREP program was extended. The veteran students are doing more work in the community helping homeless veterans and delivering furniture.

Dr. Epps mentioned that the students participated in the Honda Classic and came in third for the region.

General Schwartz expressed appreciation for working with Trustee Isaacs. He has been valuable and was thanked for his support. General Schwartz extended congratulations to Mr. Isaacs on his graduation.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

BEVERLY FRANKLIN

DRAFT