



Council on Student Services
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, November 8th, 2017
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 pm in room SL232

Members: Desmond P., Liza A., Laura B., Varsha P., Sana S., Christina A., Nana F., Annie S., Rowshyra C., Nicole B., Makta Y., Andrew D., Aaheli M., Devyani P., Mouly R., Deena H., Michelle V., Nadia R.

Non-Members: George S., Mohsin B., Kavita S., Gabriella E., Elsie O., Liza L., Manjot B., Raymond D., Chris B., Tasneem N., Megan L.(Secretary)

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved: Annie S.

Seconded: Makta Y.

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Aaheli M.

Seconded: Andrew D.

3. Advisory Committee Report Back

Health & Wellness (Aaheli M.): At the first meeting, they discussed services, goals of the meetings.

Academic Advising & Career Centre (Varsha P.): Discussed terms of reference, roles and expectations. Will discuss budget and programming at the next meeting.

Department of Student Life (Makda Y.): Discussed programs, budget, expectations, and study abroad.

Athletics (Laura B.): Was a small group with alumni at the meeting. They discussed the new equity position.

Finance (Annie S.): Went through the structure of the fee schedule.

4. Presentations from Portfolios of Student Affairs & Services

AccessAbility Services

Varsha presented on behalf of Tina D. and discussed the relationship between AccessAbility Services and AA&CC, with a look at building metrics in the future. Varsha highlighted the services (incl. embedding), programming, and growth in registered students, before explaining the budget, specifically the AccessAbility Enhancement Fund (AEF).

Devyani asked whether there was designated study space for registered students, and whether it could be made possible. Varsha replied she was unsure but mentioned dedicated exam space and space constraints around creating dedicated study spaces. A student raised the issue around calling it disability since students with a disability may not see themselves as “disabled”, and may make them feel like something is wrong. Asked to reconsider wordage. Sana S. questioned the consistency between volunteer notetakers’ notes. Suggested paying notetakers may make quality better, or provide more training. Varsha replied they will look at the quality of notes, but mentioned there is an orientation for notetakers.

Department of Student Life

Nadia R. discussed increasing DSL’s visual presence (e.g. video/social media) before highlighting programs, CCR, and going abroad. She discussed the department’s goals and future plans regarding staffing and roles, concluding with participation numbers and priorities.

Devyani suggested linking students studying abroad with a local campus groups for CCR credit. Manjot B. said there are lots of pre and post study abroad work that they are trying to get acknowledged on CCR. Aaheli said that as an international student, she didn't know what questions to ask of her mentor – suggested further training for mentors. Nadia replied that the Intercultural Coordinator role has made for more streamlined programming in that area.

Student Housing & Residence Life

Michelle V. discussed the mission and components of residence, before stating the new Manager role will allow for more metrics to be taken in the future. She discussed the living and learning curriculum, as well as the timeline for the new residence building. Michelle highlighted the roles of the advisory committees and associated working groups. Nicole asked whether the new residence would be for first year students or senior students. Michelle said that it will have a first year focus but will be available to all students. Annie asked about the off campus housing contact. Michelle replied the front desk person can assist with off campus housing. Aaheli asked about fee estimates for the new residence. Michelle replied that while the current residence will be a lower price, there will be options for students at all price points. Raymond asked whether the new building will be built to adhere to environmental standards. Michelle said that they were working to adhere to a number of different environmental standards.

Health & Wellness

Laura provided an overview of staff and their roles, before discussing the health and counselling services, and health promotion programming. She said that there has been an increase in visit numbers in all areas and discussed new services and supports.

Annie asked whether phone consultations were the same as telehealth. Laura said that consultations are nurses calling students for follow-ups or more information. There is no phone diagnoses. Devyani suggested a sleep peer wellness group (similar to UTM) may benefit students at UTSC. Laura agreed. Raymond wanted to know the specifics of sharing the sexual trauma counselor between the Sexual Violence Centre and Health & Wellness. Laura said they are in each centre 2 days/week. Sana wanted to know the connection between Health & Wellness and *AccessAbility Services* regarding mental health services. Laura said the departments work closely together, referring students both ways. The new counselor starting will be embedded in *AccessAbility* 2 days/week.

Athletics & Recreation

Laura discussed the TPASC facilities and campus partnerships, as well as space rental for campus groups. She highlighted athletic programming, outdoor rec, and community events and outreach. She concluded with numbers and statistics and future positions, programs, and initiatives.

Raymond said they know of a Muslim student who attended women only hours but the dividers were awkwardly placed which made it possible for others to see through. Gabriella said they have implemented female ambassadors to support women only hours. She reminded the group TPASC isn't only for UTSC students, but agreed that the curtain can be adjusted and will take the feedback to the team. Devyani asked why co-op students don't have TPASC access, stated it should be an opt-in option for students on work term. Through group discussion it was determined that since co-op students don't pay student fees while on work term, they do not have access to TPASC. Nicole added that co-op students don't know exactly what services are available to them while on work term. Gabriella added that the TPASC system is tied to ROSI/ACORN and that some students may experience a short period of access before the systems catch up.

5. Adjournment

Moved: Desmond P.

Seconded: Annie S.

All in favour. Meeting adjourned.