

BFA Student Affairs Committee Report

2019/2020 Academic Year

Prepared by Lev Szentkirályi, Chair

Summary of Key Agenda Items

September

- Discuss Spring 2019 BFA committee survey: solicit reactions and identify consistent themes
- Shape 2019/2020 SAC agenda: identify high-priority issues

October

- Explore challenges to student mental wellness at CU with Jennifer McDuffie, Student Affairs
- Solicit reactions and initial brainstorming: identify practical ways CU faculty can proactively prevent mental health crises and promote general mental health wellness among our students
- Finalize 2019/2020 SAC agenda—listed in order of priority:
 1. *Mental Health*: help faculty proactively stem growing prevalence of mental health problems of CU students before they become crises
 2. *Honor Code*: explore how to deter students from using websites that promote cheating and feasibility of making sanctions for egregious forms of academic misconduct more stringent
 3. *Disability Services*: identify ways to reduce burden on individual faculty to seek out and accommodate diverse documented needs of their students, and to create less ad hoc and inconsistent approach to meeting these needs of our students

November

- Explore challenges to student mental wellness at CU with June Gruber, Psychology Department, and Leisha Connors-Bauer, Health and Wellness Services
- Explore challenges to student mental wellness at CU with Jill Sieben-Schneider, Disability Services
- Finalize short-list of tangible recommendations: identify practical ways CU faculty can proactively prevent mental health crises and promote general mental health wellness among our students

January

- SAC statement on faculty responsibilities: discuss request from BFA Chair for statement outlining faculty responsibilities for development and welfare of CU students—draft to be prepared by Kira
- Challenges to student mental wellness: revisit and prioritize (Fall 2019) short-list of practical ways CU faculty can proactively promote general mental health wellness among our students, and assign specific initiatives to committee members:
 - a. Faculty outreach: workshops and listserv—Kris and David
 - b. Faculty outreach: resource emails and PowerPoint slides—Bonnie and Anja
 - c. Faculty outreach: required faculty training—Lev
- SAC charge: review existing language defining SAC's objectives, responsibilities, and priorities

February

- SAC statement on faculty responsibilities: review and comment on draft prepared by Kira
- Status updates on members' respective mental health challenge initiatives (a-c above)
- SAC charge: collaboratively revise existing language defining SAC's objectives, responsibilities, and priorities—final draft to be prepared by Lev

March

- Status updates on members' respective mental health challenge initiatives (a-c above)
- Explore challenges to preventing academic misconduct at CU with new faculty-led Honor Code Advisory Board with Maggie Higgins and Lindy Stein, Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution

April

- Status updates on members' respective mental health challenge initiatives (a-c above)
- Understand content of current optional faculty training on student mental health wellness with Jennifer McDuffie, Student Affairs
- Prepare formal resolution on faculty responsibilities to promote mental health wellness at CU to be endorsed by BFA Executive Committee

Guest Speakers

October

- Jennifer McDuffie, Student Affairs (on student mental wellness at CU)

November

- June Gruber, Psychology Department (on student mental wellness at CU)
- Leisha Conners-Bauer, Health and Wellness (on student mental wellness at CU)
- Jill Sieben-Schneider, Disability Services (on student mental wellness at CU)

March

- Maggie Higgins and Lindy Stein, Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (on preventing academic misconduct at CU)

April

- Jennifer McDuffie, Student Affairs (on current optional faculty mental health wellness training)

Items Brought Before BFA Executive Committee

March: revised Student Affairs Committee charge

April: SAC-sponsored resolution on faculty responsibilities to promote mental health wellness at CU