

BFA Student Affairs Committee Year-end Report

Spring 2018 - Spring 2019

May 21, 2019

Catherine Kunce, Chair

Committee Members:

Seth Hornstein, Kira Paquesi, Gail Ramsberger, David Youkey, and Kris Karnuskas

Committee Resources:

Michaele Ferguson, Akira Bradley, Christina Gonzales, Mary Kraus, Jennifer McDuffie, Allie Shea Reuter, Juan Garcia Oyervides, Sarah Fahmy, and Katherine Eggert

Highlights of the Committee's Activities:

- After investigation, the Committee determined that the TTh versus MW teaching schedules could not be adjusted to distribute the same amount of teaching days for faculty on different teaching schedules. (Previously, some faculty thought it unfair that the MW faculty taught less classes per semester due to some holidays falling on Monday.)
- After the UGGS voiced concern over a number of issues, including student fees, the Committee crafted a resolution in support of graduate students' seeking solutions to the fees. The resolution passed unanimously in the Assembly. During the last Assembly meeting in May, the Provost voiced pleasure in resolving some of the issues, including resolving the issue of student fees.
- After being approached by an undergraduate student concerned about student suicide and mental health issues among students, the Committee sought to create a resolution that would put a required

statement about mental health issues on syllabi. Consultation with leadership dissuaded the Committee from continuing to work on the resolution. The Committee then explored the possibility of posting on the BFA site (on the SAC page) a list of resources (including contact information for CAPS, etc.) that faculty might disseminate to students. Again, the Committee eventually agreed that doing so could create some confusion regarding what information must be distributed to students. In consultation with the Student Affairs office, the Committee finally decided that it might be a good idea simply to provide a link on the SAC page to the “Student Resources” page already posted and maintained by Student Affairs office.

The Committee’s determination that it would be useful to provide such a link on the BFA has not been presented to the BFA Executive Committee. Here is the link:

<https://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/student-resources>

- The Committee monitored the restructuring of the Honor Council and learned that backlog of student cases has been dissolved and that the Honor Council seems to be operating fairly smoothly.
- The Committee reviewed its mission statement and contributed to a poll sent out to faculty regarding the mission of the SAC. It linked the work it had done in passing a resolution last fall calling for the voluntary resisting of using Wardenburg medical “excuses,” which are actually only verification of appointment slips. For further information, please see the *Boulder Daily Camera*’s article on the issue:

<https://www.dailycamera.com/2018/09/12/university-of-colorado-faculty-staff-look-to-reduce-practice-of-students-seeking-doctors-notes/>

- SAC would like to thank the generous assistance of the aforementioned Committee Resources, the Boulder Faculty Assembly Executive Committee, and Lynne Howard.

Suggestions for Next Year:

- Maintain close connections with the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Undergraduate Education, and both the UGGS and CUSG.
- Pursue possibility of listing Student Affairs resource link on BFA SAC page.
- Continue to use Zoom for Committee meetings.