

Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 29, 2008
5:45 pm
Phoenix Room B

Attendance: Josh Vanden Busch, Nick Vlies, Ben Techmeier, Nicki Manske, Denise Dyer, Sheila Schroeder, and Steve Schultz

- I. Introductions
 - a. Josh introduced himself and what the committee deals with. He also told the committee members about their Resource Liaison, Tim Sewall. Steve mentioned that Brenda and Sue are also potential resources.

- II. Information/Discussion Items
 - a. Goals for the year (Brainstorm session) – the senators were asked to share the ideas they brainstormed for the meeting. Possible projects mentioned included textbook pricing and the pros/cons of a rental system, the buyback prices of textbooks, and addressing the lack of consistency between the Bursar’s Office deadlines and the Academic deadlines (with dropping/adding classes). Steve and Nicki informed the group that last year, door hangers were given to professors to remind them to get textbook orders in “on time.” The possibility of creating and enforcing an actual deadline for professors’ textbook orders was discussed. Josh shared his ideas, which included departmental teacher evaluations, research into textbook issues, reviewing the new schedule near the end of the year, and registration times.

- III. Open Discussion for Ideas/Concerns
 - a. Josh explained last year’s report on the research done on a textbook rental system and the issues with the committee.
 - b. Members were concerned with how the Bookstore ceased providing The New York Times to students who were required to have it for classes. Members expressed a desire to resolve the problem in some fashion. Josh said he would look into what kind of action the committee could take.
 - c. Josh asked members to talk with 5 students about issues they would like to see the committee address.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:11 pm.