

Values Commitment Steering Team Minutes January 15, 2015

Team members in attendance were Bob Sitler, Michael Branton, Leila Roach, Colleen Price, Savannah-Jane Griffin, Joshua Rust, and Felisha McCaster by teleconference from the College of Law.

Values Day

Suggested core committee members are Leila Roach, Joshua Rust, Savannah-Jane Griffin, and Rajni Shankar-Brown. The past model of having a core committee and a student committee worked well. The committee should come up with recommendations for a speaker, preferably a woman, keeping in mind that the amount of the honorarium is open. Savannah-Jane suggested Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), a federal agency that administers AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, the Social Innovation Fund, and other programs. Other suggestions for speaker will be forwarded after a meeting Savannah-Jane will attend on January 16. We have Values Day; the College of Law has Constitution Day the day after, and it was discussed that these should align. Felisha submitted the College of Law academic calendar, but approval hasn't yet been given.

Printing Resources

This will be under the umbrella of the new environmental task force to begin meeting later in the semester. Suggestions for task force participants are Les Lloyd, interim director of I.T., Michael Branton, a library representative, Kat Thomas from SGA, and Aaron Bibee. Mike and Bob will discuss a staff person to serve on the group as well. Bob will contact Dr. Libby and Les Lloyd to find out about the involvement of the College of Law. Potential suggestions for the new group is to focus not solely on paper use, but other ways to preserve resources such as phasing out or minimizing the use of personal computers and looking at the kind of printer cartridges that are being used. There has been no official response to any environmental recommendations from the task force thus far; however, Dr. Libby has expressed that it should be a number 1 priority. Bob will follow up when he writes regarding the paper issue.

Holidays

Leila spoke with Chaplain Fronk. He and Lindsey Graves have discussed holidays and will report back to us.

Employee Wellness

With Shelia Daniels leaving the University, Colleen will meet with Chris Chelberg at the end of the month.

Tobacco Investments

Most of Stetson's investments are currently with Vanguard, which includes tobacco. The committee was expecting board approval for changing to a more socially responsible fund, also a Vanguard fund, which has been found to outperform our current investment, but that hasn't happened yet. Bob will follow up to see where we are on that.

Concussions

The recommendation was that the University should report annually on concussions, and no response has been given on where we are in implementing this. Bob discussed the problem with

Jeff Altier, to which Jeff responded that we follow protocol. Bob asked how we compare with ivy league protocols on this issue and have we given consideration to lead in this area. It was noted that NCAA requirements are quite low and easy to meet. As head athletic trainer with more expertise in this area, Glenn Brickey has been involved in the conversation.

Other Discussion

Felisha asked if anyone was planning to attend the diversity conference in Las Vegas on April 9 and 10. Dean Pietruszkiewicz wants someone from the College of Law to attend, and it may be the same conference that some from the DeLand campus will be attending.

It was noted that reports on the inclusive excellence group have been positive. One area that needs addressing is the low number of people of color as faculty, particularly Latinos.

It was brought to our attention that Stetson received Carnegie classification.

The committee was asked to think about replacements for next year. It was recommended that the committee leader be a tenured faculty member, two members from the College of Law if possible, and the balance faculty and staff. Felisha knows of a faculty member who could possibly serve.

The next meeting will take place on January 29, 2015 at 10 a.m. in room 126 of the Lynn Business Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hamil
Recording Secretary