Provost's Advisory Council
Thursday, March 25, 2021
8:30-10:00 a.m. - Zoom

In attendance:

Sharon Beckman (Chair)
Anthony Annunziato
Michelle Elias Bloomer
Mary Ellen Carter
Joseph Du Pont
Kristin Flower
Yonder Gillihan
Stacy Grooters
Christian Guma
Angela Harkins

Dewin Hernandez
Regine Jean-Charles
Gregory Kalscheur, S.J.
William Keane
Thomas Kohler
Adam Krueckeberg

Student Affairs has been working with Lise Leist, a current BC Trustee who specializes in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program evaluation and development, to review DEI programming within the division.

There is also an ongoing review of the *DiversityEdu* platform which all freshman go through. There is a need to engage with the rest of the student body in a planned and intentional manner. There is additional content via *DiversityEdu* that could be leveraged to engage students throughout their time at BC, or other competency modules may be needed. Student Affairs has been working with Mission and Ministry's First-Year Experience to integrate their diversity trainings as well as working with others across campus to design workshops to engage in these important conversations.

Following the recent mass shooting in Georgia, communication went out to students offering support resources, and a candlelight vigil was held on Maloney lawn. Through the Office of Institutional Diversity and Vice Provost Akua Sarr, there was also a Courageous Conversations event addressing anti-Asian racism and violence.

Mike introduced Tom Mogan, Associate Vice President for Student Engagement and Formation, to discuss engagement with students around racial incidents on campus and around the country, as well as the University's ongoing COVID-19 response.

Tom began with a review of the response to racial incidents. Last summer there were conversations with student groups across campus to address concerns and hear how BC could be more supportive. The DEI committee within Student Affairs created spaces for staff to prepare to support and engage students in the fall. Once students returned to campus, Student Affairs helped to support activism on campus. In coordination with the Forum on Racial Justice and student groups, there was a Solidarity for Racial Justice event in the fall, which facilitated conversations and commitments to solidarity and action.

Early in the spring semester, there was a Winterfest event that featured food, fire pits, and outdoor games, and a Turks and CaiStokes event provided students with a spring-break-type event. Additional initiatives planned for the spring semester include:

> Equinox – an event similar to Winterfest, looking toward the spring equinox, which will feature a senior-week type atmosphere for students
> For first-year students, spaces equipped with games can be reserved in O'Connell House for groups of up to six students to gather
> Baldwin's Backyard will begin in April and will provide outdoor gathering spaces
> BC After Dark will transform Hillside café and the adjacent plaza into a sports bar type atmosphere for students who are 21+

Tom discussed the ongoing concern for student gatherings and violations to the student code of conduct. Most of the violations have been due to large gatherings. There has been consistent messaging to students about their responsibilities and consequences for violations.

A council member requested a formal system to inform faculty about racial incidents on campus, noting that faculty sometimes hear about incidents from students during class. A council member added that improved communication would allow faculty to make better use of resources available to them in preparing for conversations with students.

Mike acknowledged the need to disseminate information in a timely manner, and this is a topic of ongoing conversations.

A council member asked for increased communication to graduate students around commencement and options for in-person programming for the end of the academic year.

Mike responded that larger scale events will depend on the vaccine rollout and the state limitations on gathering sizes. Additional correspondence around plans for the end of the semester will be coming soon. Tom added that Student Affairs is aware of the graduate student specific concerns and is working with Carole Hughes on them.

Mike then introduced Melinda Stoops, Associate Vice President for Student Health and W

Early May: Student Accounts. Note: Student Accounts has already launched but continues to integrate with UIS, and will switch to full integration with Eagle Apps in May.

Late May/June: Registration for the fall semester

Summer: Degree Audit, Grading, and Transcripts

Summer: The first class graduating out of Eagle Apps will occur.

Mary continued, discussing the summer registration timeline. Eagle Apps will provide students an opportunity to plan their schedules via a course-planning module that will be available to them before the registration period opens. Registration for the various schools will be spread out in April to allow for the best possible support to students and trouble-shooting, as necessary. Registration for the fall semester has been pushed back to late May and June to allow for additional planning to accommodate a higher volume of students registering. Advising will happen prior to students leaving campus, with registration happening after Commencement. Pandemic conditions have led many peer schools to take a similar approach.

Jen Mack provided some background on the work thus far. Course Management and Course Offerings were deployed in mid-December and since then, there have been 18 additional deployments to production with new features, functions, and bug fixes. A support module was implemented which utilizes the BC Works ticket system. There have been 17 group-training sessions attended by over 300 staff members, and over 80 one-on-one training sessions. An Eagle Apps curriculum has been developed in Canvas with 19 training videos currently available across different subject areas. Eventually, every module will have a Canvas training component as well as quick snippet help videos that link from within the application.