

Academic Support and Student Services Committee (AS&SS)

Minutes

01/23/25

10:00 – 11:30am

Members attending:

Tiffany Tsantsoulas (Chair, A&H), Kristine Holloway (Vice-Chair, Librarian), Leslie Kirstein (NSME), Jose Villagran (At-Large), Marci Diaz (ASI Exec-VP), Pratigya Sigdyaal (BPA), Janine Cornelison (Student Services Professional), Ivonna Edkins (Staff Member), Sandra Bozarth (ex-officio, Dean of Libraries), Steve Walsh (ex-officio, EOP), Mike Kwon (ex-officio, Director of ASI)

Members excused: Nora Cisneros (At-Large), Markel Quarles (ex-officio, VP-Student Affairs Designee), Elaine Correa (SSE)

- I. Call to Order (by Chair, T. Tsantsoulas)
- II. Approval of Minutes (Approved)
- III. Approval of Agenda (Approved)
- IV. New Business:
 - a. 2024-2025 REFERRAL #25 - Academic Advising Structure and Report
 - Dr. Tsantsoulas led the discussion on the structural changes to academic advising, which has been moved under the Division of Enrollment Management. The committee reviewed the implications of this change, including its impact on shared governance and the faculty's role in policy decisions related to advising. Concerns were raised about how this reorganization could affect student services, advising relationships with college leadership, and the Senate's ability to maintain its oversight role in academic affairs.
 - The committee noted the importance of understanding the rationale behind the changes and questioned whether these decisions align with the Senate's responsibility to ensure advising supports academic integrity. Members also discussed the potential for faculty involvement in advising and the importance of fostering collaboration between advisors and academic leadership.
 - To address these concerns, the committee agreed on several next steps:

1. **Research Past Resolutions:** Dr. Tsantsoulas will review past Senate resolutions regarding academic advising to provide historical context.
2. **Invite Expert Input:** Jennifer Mabry will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the vision for the relationship between academic advising and the Academic Senate.
3. **Revise Interim Director Report:** Dr. Tsantsoulas will consult with the Executive Committee to revise the requested report from the interim Director of Advising, focusing on how the Senate will maintain its relationship with advising.
4. **Review Documentation:** Committee members will review materials in Box related to past Senate-advising relationships.
5. **Engage at Faculty Meeting:** Members are encouraged to attend the upcoming General Faculty meeting to ask questions about the advising restructuring and seek clarification from President Harper.
6. The committee agreed to wait for additional information, including an updated organizational chart and division of duties, before drafting a resolution. There was consensus on the need to ensure transparency and inclusiveness in the restructuring process, with a focus on protecting the academic nature of advising as a critical element of shared governance.

V. Adjourn

- a. Chair thanked everyone for their participation, before adjourning at 11:10a.m.