

STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICERS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 18, 2019, 9 a.m.

NC State University Joyner Visitor Center

Committee Chair/Host—Barry Olson

In attendance: Barry Olson, Associate Vice Chancellor, Division of Academic and Student Affairs, NC State University; Ann Gleason, Dean of Students, Meredith College; Frank Rizzo, Vice President for Student Services, William Peace University; Bobbie Cole, Assistant Vice President of Student Life and Director of Residence Life and Housing, William Peace; Kevin Brown; Associate VP for Student Services, Wake Tech Community College; Ann Brown, Dean of Women, Saint Augustine's University; Jenny Spiker, CRC Director.

- **Welcome**—Barry Olson welcomed the committee and guests to NC State.
- **Special report on the new Intercollegiate Student Advisory Board:** Danya Perry, Equitable Economic Development Manager, Wake County Economic Development, Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce; Emily Slusser, Meredith College SGA President; Brian Garsh, NC State SGA Adviser
 - **Danya**—He explained why the Chamber and his economic development division wanted to get students from the Raleigh colleges together. He said they have a focus on equity and want to know more about how to engage and support our community's work force and talent pipelines. They want to know what young people are thinking and to understand what students need for careers and how to cultivate talent. He wants to help us help them. He said we have six amazing higher education institutions in our community. He will have members of the student advisory board come to Chamber and community events. The first one will be Brianna Landis from Meredith who will speak at a triangle talent event.
 - **Emily**—As one of the SGA members, she said not only are they meeting at the Chamber, but they are having tours of the campuses with the first one this year at Meredith. And they are looking for more ways to cooperate among the campuses. She pointed to the sheet with the Board's mission statement and pillars that the students created at the second of their two meetings in January and February and read the mission. They want to do an event where they celebrate all of the colleges' students. And she wants to get more people on campuses to be leaders. She said the group loves to get to know each other, and some of that started when they came to CRC's 50th anniversary event in September at the Governor's Mansion. Their next meeting at the Chamber is on March 18th.
 - **Brian**—As an SGA adviser, he thinks it is really exciting to have this coalition. He thinks they can bounce ideas to affect change in the larger Raleigh community. Jenny thanked him and the other SGA advisers for helping to get two SGA students from all of the six institutions. She said how impressed she was that all of the colleges had representatives at the two Monday evening meetings just one week apart.

Questions and Discussion about the group:

- Bobbie asked about their ideas for **engaging non-noticed students**. Emily gave an example of a student at Meredith that goes unnoticed and how she would like to recognize her and others in that category.
 - Danya said they hope to **set a road map to be innovative**. At their next meeting they will work on the events in the community that students can help with.
 - Ann Gleason asked **how they will get student investment for making it work**. How are you going to keep the momentum going? How do you pass the mantle on? Emily said they are already working on that, and one way is to bring new leaders to the next meeting. They hope to have the last meeting be a meet and greet. Danya added that they'll look at milestones, not long-term goals.
 - Frank asked **how is the leadership happening?** Right now the group has the SGA president plus one other leadership role. Leadership development will be a part of the constitution they'll work on. Maybe down the road they will have a larger group.
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- **Members' reports on key projects or issues on his/her campus, plus topics of discussion:**
 - **Barry**—He said NC State has its largest freshman class (just under 5,000) and next year they're expecting the same. They have a spring connection program and new housing leadership. They also have a huge spike in **mental health issues**. They are also dealing with student death issues. He would be happy to share their information on those issues. They also have challenges relating to increasing student fees.
 - **Ann Gleason**—She said Meredith has had **mental health issues** as well. The hardest challenge is dealing with the **significant interruption with classes and activities** as they don't have clear policies for that. Barry added that NCSU also has issues with **hunger and homelessness**. And Ann said they have that too. They are working with the Meredith Care Team on new policies. They are seeing more students in crisis. Both Bobbie and Barry added their impressions about related issues with an **emphasis on behavior rather than medical issues**. It's especially challenging for small schools because it's so complicated.
 - **Ann Brown**—She said Saint Augustine's is finding **working with social media difficult**. And **housing is their current biggest challenge** because of maintenance to old buildings and staffing. For next year they are thinking it might be best to close a couple of buildings and get them up to par. But what to do with students? They are also dealing with **drug policies**, which are a part of their student code of conduct. They have a 5 o'clock rule—caught with drugs, you're gone. Ann Gleason said Meredith recently changed their drug policy. They reviewed them and went from zero tolerance to be a range of sanctions and set up probation for more minor violations. She said she'd be happy to share those policies with Saint Augustine's, and NC State said they will share their policies too. Bobbie said William Peace has a similar policy—no zero tolerance, and they include how it works with athletics. Ann Gleason said Meredith added subscription drugs to their policies. Kevin said that as a commuter school Wake Tech has to deal with what students do before getting to campus.

- **Frank Rizzo and Bobbie Cole—CBD is a drug-related issue** that William Peace is dealing with. (Cannabidiol (CBD) is a naturally occurring compound found in the resinous flower of cannabis). But it's hard to tell whether it's marijuana or not. Now WPU is trying to do some research on how to deal with this. Public safety is doing the testing. They are thinking of banning the flowers because it too closely resembles marijuana. Vaping is also hard to deal with. Bobbie said students tell them they're using CBD to make life easier in college. Ann Brown said one of the student leaders at Saint Augustine's is leading the drug issues with a project of her own because she thought they needed to do more education about drugs on the campus. Ann Gleason said it's ideal that that kind of effort is coming from students.
 - Ann Brown had questions about **off-campus leasing for housing**. She asked if William Peace subleases off campus, and they do and handle the subleased housing the same as on campus housing. WPU leases full buildings and recommends that. Bobbie said WPU would be happy to give them information on the searches they've done for their off-campus housing needs.
 - **Campus ID for student voting**—Frank thinks they'll have to change all IDs because of this new situation. Kevin said that this week the community college system is doing a call about that. It's \$5 a card or maybe more depending on if includes a bank contract, etc. It benefits students but there's a cost (not budgeted).
 - **Student emergency funds**—NC State already started that kind of fund. WPU is looking at such funds. Barry said the members could look at NC State's plan. SAU has a grant of \$500 annually. Meredith's fund is depleted.
 - **Food insecurity**—The group discussed how they handle food insecurity on their campuses. It goes from pantries to getting the word out to students about food leftover from events. They have take-out containers and some campuses have donated refrigerators.
 - **Student advocacy issues and resources**—William Peace and Wake Tech said they could create lists to share. **NCSU has interns looking for places to work** and would like to consider the other campuses. Barry asked committee members to send him email about internships on their campuses.
 - **Census issues**—NCSU is getting questions about this. International students are often affected.
- **Updates on current/recent CRC projects—Jenny Spiker**. Jenny pointed to the materials in their folders and asked them to let her know about any speakers they think could take part in the Staff Professional Development Workshop on July 18th at Shaw University.
 - 50th anniversary celebration, Adjunct (non-tenure-track) Professors Professional Development Project, Staff professional development workshops, Librarians workshops, End of year reception for executive officers following the June Board meeting
 - **Groups to get together** Committee members will send the names to Jenny for these groups.
 - ***Disabilities Coordinators** (Best time to meet is this summer.)
 - ***Student Activities Directors**
 - ***Residence Life/Housing Directors** (Add academic support issues. Bobbie will help organize this group.)