

Senate Student Welfare Committee
Minutes
November 21st, 2024

Charge: This committee shall review the conditions that contribute to the academic success, personal development, physical and mental well-being of students, and available forms of financial aid. It may seek the opinion of the Senate on such matters and make recommendations.

2024/2025 Student Welfare Committee Members

***Leo Lachut, ISS, Co-Chair, Academic Achievement Center**

***Tina McCarthy, Co-Chair, Student Health and Wellness**

*Alexis Boylan, SFA

*Andy Bush, CLAS

*Kate Fuller, UConn Libraries

*Erica Granoff, Student Services (Stamford Campus)

*Nathanael Okpych, Social Work (Hartford)

*Jennifer Pascal, Engineering

*Tracy Rittenhouse, CAHNR

*Sarah Scheidel, Enrichment Programs

*Mike Shor, CLAS

*Fiona Vernal, CLAS, History

Bryanna Anderson, Center for Students with Disabilities

Cynthia Costanzo, Interim Vice President for Student Life (Ex-Officio Member)

Kimberly Duby, Dean of Students Office (*absent*)

Arthur Galinat, International Student & Scholar Services

Katherine McCarthy, One Stop Student Services Office

Suzanne Peters, Financial Aid

Megan Petsa, The Graduate School

Peter Tribuzio, Student Services, Waterbury Campus

*Senate Member 2024/2025

1. Welcome :

2. Approve Minutes - October meeting
 - a. Minutes approved unanimously

Old Business

Call for agenda items

Leo Lachut called attention to these standing committee agenda items and asked if anyone had any topics to discuss on either regional or DEIJ concerns.

Regional Concerns:

- Erica Granoff raised concerns about Week of Welcome programming on the Stamford campus.

DEIJ Ongoing concerns

New Business

- Guests – Maureen Armstrong Assoc. Director, Dean of Students & Kristina Stevens, Director of SHAW Mental health

Tina McCarthy welcomed the guests and introduced the topic. Maureen Armstrong summarized that there are standard protocols that are followed in the case of a death or serious injury of a student. Maureen Armstrong and Kristina Stevens shared a [slide deck](#) which reviewed each step in the process, highlighting each step taken. They also shared that the process is constantly revised in response to incidents to make continuous improvements on handling these complicated and challenging situations. Leo Lachut thanked them for their presentation and opened the floor to questions, asking a follow-up regarding the inclusion of the campus faith communities in these incidences. Maureen Armstrong shared that John Armstrong is the liaison to the faith communities, and they are notified so they can be aware that students may be struggling, particularly if the student who passed may have been a part of one of the faith communities. Tina McCarthy asked for further information on how the processes might be affected by the world of social media, at the speed at which inaccurate information can spread outside of the protocols in place, citing concerns regarding the incident in the spring 2024 semester.

- Nurse Navigators at Regional
 - Leo Lachut reintroduced this topic and asked Peter Tribuzio to speak on how this program is working on his campus. Tina McCarthy shared about the role of these Navigators – they are present as a means of advice, link to other resources and can support students on their health needs, but cannot deliver direct clinical/medical care. Arthur Galinat shared positive experiences with the Nurse Navigator at the Stamford campus.
- New Fee structure: Arthur Galinat shared that [slides are available from the Town Hall](#) on this subject.
- Transportation issues, Less availability of routes, Hours, ridership?
- Clearer weather policy for class cancelation