

Annual Report to the University Senate

Academic Year 2023-2024

Senate Student Welfare Committee

Committee 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.

2023/2024 Scholastic Standards Committee Members:

- ***Leo Lachut, ISS, Academic Achievement Center (Chair)**
- *Tom Bontly, CLAS, Philosophy
- *Andy Bush, CLAS, Earth Sciences
- *Kate Fuller, UConn Libraries
- *Erica Granoff, Stamford, Student Services
- *Tina McCarthy, Student Health and Wellness
- *Jennifer Pascal, Engineering, Chemical & Molecular
- *Sarah Scheidel, Enrichment Programs
- *Fiona Vernal, CLAS, History
- Bryanna Anderson, Center for Students with Disabilities
- Fabiana Cardetti, CLAS, Mathematics
- Kimberly Duby, Dean of Students Office
- Nathan Fuerst, Vice President for Enrollment Planning & Management (Ex-Officio Member)
- Arthur Galinat, International Student & Scholar Services
- Gavin Kuebler, Undergraduate Student
- Mona Lucas, Enrollment Planning and Management
- Katherine McCarthy, One Stop Student Services Office
- Suzanne Peters, Financial Aid
- Megan Petsa, The Graduate School
- Lorien Touponse, Undergraduate Student
- Peter Tribuzio, Student Services, Hartford Campus

**indicates 2023/2024 Senate member*

****End-of-Year Report for Student Welfare Committee - Academic Year 2023-2024****

Dear Members of the UConn Senate and University Community,

As Chair of the Student Welfare Committee, I am pleased to present the end-of-year report summarizing the activities and discussions of our committee throughout the academic year 2023-2024. The Student Welfare Committee is tasked with reviewing the conditions that contribute to the academic success, personal development, physical, and mental well-being of students, as well as available forms of financial aid. Our committee strives to address key concerns and make recommendations to enhance the overall student experience at the University of Connecticut.

****September 21st, 2023 Meeting Highlights:****

- Discussed submitted end-of-year report.
- Addressed concerns about Hartford students residing in Storrs.
- Provided updates on COVID-19 cases and class modalities.
- Raised regional concerns, including the status of the Student First Fund and logistical hurdles in the Book Bundle program.
- Discussed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I) concerns and the potential institution of a fall break.

****November 16th, 2023 Meeting Highlights:****

- Reviewed updates on various ongoing concerns, including the Book Bundle program and off-campus housing for graduate students.
- Discussed campus safety, lighting, and crosswalks.
- Raised concerns about the new housing policy and access to healthcare on regional campuses.

****January 18th, 2024 Meeting Highlights:****

- Discussed ongoing concerns about the impact of severe budget cuts on student experience.
- Received updates on regional concerns, DE&I initiatives, and off-campus housing for graduate students.

- Addressed the rollout of a new email system and its implications for students and alumni.

****February 15th, 2024 Meeting Highlights:****

- Reviewed previous discussions on fall break and severe budget cuts.
- Discussed updates on regional concerns, DE&I initiatives, and off-campus housing for graduate students.
- Addressed campus safety concerns and the campus response to NCAA tournaments.

****March 21st, 2024 Meeting Highlights:****

- Presented the Fall Break Report and discussed the decision not to propose changes for the upcoming fall semester.
- Received updates on regional concerns, DE&I initiatives, and off-campus housing for graduate students.
- Discussed the campus response to NCAA tournaments, university response to loss of students, academic misconduct, and bus lines.

****April 18th, 2024 Meeting Highlights:****

- - *Fall Break Report*
 - Discussion ongoing; report in progress.
 - *Regional Concerns*
 - Updates on Nurse Navigators at regionals and graduate student access discussed.
 - *D, E & I Concerns - Campus Climate*
 - Continued monitoring; issues regarding posters on campus addressed.
 - *Off-campus Housing for Graduate Students*
 - Pricing for new rentals discussed.
 - *Campus Response to NCAA Tournaments and Safety*
 - Positive feedback on recent NCAA tournament viewing parties related to safety shared.
 - *University Response/Communications to Loss of Students*
 - Maureen Armstrong offered assistance; concerns raised regarding communication speed.
 - *Academic Misconduct (Use of AI)*
 - Presentation by Guest Brian Goepfrich on Academic Integrity and AI.
 - Overview of UConn Policy, reporting process, and recent cases provided.
 - *Co-Chair Proposal - Tina McCarthy*

- Accepted co-chair position for next academic year; discussion on committee listing.
- **End of Year Report**
 - Leo Lachut drafting; feedback requested; report to be presented on April 29th.

Throughout the academic year, the Student Welfare Committee has remained dedicated to addressing the diverse needs and concerns of our student body. We have engaged in robust discussions, sought solutions to pressing issues, and advocated for initiatives aimed at enhancing student well-being and academic success. Moving forward, we remain committed to our mission and look forward to continuing our efforts to support the UConn community.

Thank you to all committee members, university stakeholders, and student representatives for your contributions and dedication to student welfare.