

# UConn Senate Student Welfare Committee

November 20, 2025, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | MS Teams

**Charge:** This committee shall review the conditions that contribute to the academic success, personal development, and well-being of undergraduate and graduate students.

## Agenda:

1. Welcome & Introductions: the committee went around the room for e-introductions and welcomed new student representatives to the committee.
  - Welcome to Student Representatives Abhishek Dubey, Jibreel Akbar, & Serena Lee
2. Approval of Minutes: the minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.
  - [10.30.25 SWC Minutes .docx](#)
3. Guest Speakers:
  - Kymberley Hendricks, Office of Student Care & Concern: Jennifer Tibbetts welcomed Kymberley Hendricks to the floor to discuss the Office of Student Care & Concern. Kymberley Hendricks gave an overview of the Office of Car & Concern mission statement, sharing that they provide individualized support, non-clinical case management and connection to resources to promote student success while prioritizing safety and well-being in alignment with best practices within the field of behavioral threat assessment and management. She gave additional details on ways their office works with faculty, staff and students to achieve this mission. She also went through the details of the referral process, highlighting the importance of the narrative, adding supportive documentation and emphasizing the reasons why many referrals become private matters between that student and the office and referees may not hear updates about the case/referral for the benefit of the student's privacy. Kymberley Hendricks also highlighted the ways in which their office connects with other university units and resources to offer holistic support to students who are struggling as well as the different levels of risk and how their tactics might shift in response to these levels. She also walked through some real life examples of issues that are managed by their office to give a sense of the differences between each level and types of issues. She emphasized the importance of calling 911 if a faculty or staff member encounters a student who is at imminent risk. Jennifer Tibbetts thanked Kymberley Hendrics for their presentation, and the floor was opened to questions. Discussion ensued and clarifying questions about different processes were asked as well as how their office differentiates its work and interacts with the Dean of Students Office. Discussion also ensued regarding the increasing number of referrals, highlighting mental health as an important issue. The group also discussed the difficulties in determining when it is

the right time to submit a referral when a student is confiding in them and when it is appropriate to be that supportive person they feel comfortable talking with.

- Arthur Galinat, International Student & Scholar Services: tabled to a future meeting.
4. Old Business
    - Regional Concerns
  5. New Business
    - New topics and Suggested Guests

## Attending:

- **\*Leo Lachut, ISS, Co-Chair, Academic Achievement Center**
- **\*Jennifer Tibbetts, Co-Chair, One Stop Student Services**
- \*Valarie Artigas, Nursing
- \*Alexis Boylan, SFA
- \*Arthur Galinat, International Student & Scholar Services (*absent*)
- \*Erica Granoff, Student Services (Stamford Campus)
- \*Amy McKeon, CAHNR Professional Staff
- \*Sarira Motaref, Engineering
- \*Nathanael Okpych, Social Work (Hartford) (*on sabbatical Fall 2025*)
- \*Tracy Rittenhouse, CAHNR (*absent*)
- \*Fiona Vernal, CLAS, History (*absent*)
- Jibreel Akbar, Undergraduate Student (*absent*)
- Bryanna Anderson, Center for Students with Disabilities (*absent*)
- Cynthia Costanzo, Interim Vice President for Student Life (Ex-Officio Member)
- Abhishek Dubey, Graduate Student Senate (*absent*)
- Kimberly Duby, Dean of Students Office
- Serena Lee, Undergraduate Student
- Tina McCarthy, SHaW
- Suzanne Peters, Financial Aid
- Megan Petsa, The Graduate School
- Peter Tribuzio, Student Services, Waterbury Campus

\*Members are Senators, AY 2025-2026

## Potential Upcoming Topics:

- Exams outside of class time
- Proposed rule which was recently announced by the federal government that may limit how student visa holders maintain their status in the U.S. (now status comes from duration of degree program and new rule proposes fixed dates separate from their enrollment) (Arthur Galinat)
- Scooter and bike safety concerns on sidewalks (Sue Peters)
- Discussion of potential changes to financial aid as a result of the passing of the “Big Beautiful Bill” (Sue Peters)
- Impacts of ICE activities on student communities (Erica Granoff)

- Impacts of budget cuts and increased enrollment on student experience
- One Stop Initiatives (Jen)
- Kim Beardsley-Carr present on bias concerns to the committee
- Jenn Longa and Sara Chipman in regard to Title IX violations.

Scheduled for January: Center for Students with Disabilities Trends, Bryanna Anderson