

Minutes of Student Success & Academic Affairs Committee Meeting
Northern Kentucky University
Tuesday, February 27, 2024
SU 104 & Zoom Conference

The Student Success & Academic Affairs Committee (SSAAC) of the Northern Kentucky University (NKU) Board of Regents met on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, in the Votruba Student Union 104 and via Zoom Conference.

Committee Chair Ashley Himes called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Roll Call: The following members of the SSAAC answered the call of the roll: Ashley Himes, Isaiah Phillips, Nathan Smith, Sandra Spataro, André Ward. (Regents Smith and Ward participated via Zoom videoconference).

Other Attendees: Sarah Aikman, Bob Alston, Grant Garber, Tammy Knochelmann, Diana McGill, Scott Patton, Cady Short-Thompson, Jason Vest

New Business & Discussion:

1. Housing and Residential Meal Plan Fees

President Short-Thompson reminded the Committee that the proposal is to increase room and board fees by 5.9% for FY2025, pending final approval by the Board at the June Board of Regents meeting. She then asked the group to consider what would be the ideal time to approve housing/dining fee increases – June, November, etc.

Scott Patton reviewed the communication plan for housing & residential dining fee increases.

President Short-Thompson recommended notification of the price increases be tied-into the housing application process and advised that the housing team is now working on 3 applications for housing.

2. Programming improvement plans / Student Engagement & Housing Collaboration

Scott Patton and Jason Vest provide a high-level overview of the conversations being held by Student Affairs & Housing leadership related to programming improvement plans and collaboration efforts. Going forward there will be fewer programs and coordination of larger events, incorporating residence life, student engagement, wellness and programming, etc. The team will begin to develop a new Strategic Plan for Student Affairs areas that will align with housing and residence life, and also aligning with curriculum and assessment plans for student employment and curricular activities that allow students to develop leadership characteristics to prepare for their future careers.

Regent Spataro asked if there was anything of that nature currently in place. Scott Patton outlined current Resident Life practices and discussed the engagement plan that supports students building rapport relationships specifically within their community, but also has things that are built out to be building wide, community wide or residential life wide.

3. Affinity Housing Implementation

Provost McGill noted that the development of Affinity Housing areas will be deferred to AY 2025 as it is too late in housing cycle to implement now.

Provost McGill will meet with the Deans to discuss their preliminary ideas on the living learning communities, including which majors have high percentages of students in housing.

Scott Patton will report back to the Committee on the number of students, by discipline, who live on campus.

4. Alcohol & Drug Policies (21+ housing)

President Short-Thompson reminded the committee that the research study conducted by students in Dr. Moberg's graduate MSIO class would test students' desire for allowing alcohol on campus.

VP Garber noted that the current policy prohibits alcohol, and a policy change would require Board approval.

Scott Patton and Bob Alston discussed potential issues related to the implementation of 21+ housing/allowing alcohol on campus including:

- Increase in conduct violations and safety related issues.
- Increase in verbal and physical altercations.
- Increase in damage to property in dorms and across campus.
- Would have impact on safe campus rating.

Regent Ward asked if we have explored to the degree that we can, plus or minus, what effect changing the alcohol policy would have on enrollment, including what off-campus constituents (parents) want.

Regent Smith countered that we are accepting adult students and parents should not be involved. He cautioned that medical marijuana would be the next issue, He stated that students are not living here because they do not like what we are offering.

Regent Phillips contributed that students are shopping colleges and parents are giving less guidance.

Regent Himes requested current data on Alcohol incidents and asked that Housing research policies of other metropolitan universities and share with group.

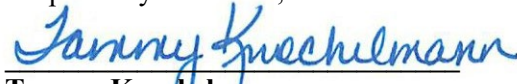
5. Fall-to-Fall Contract Plan Review

The 12-month contract is currently under legal review. The contract will run from August to August. Housing anticipates opening the contract on Friday, March 1. Norse Hall will be the only 12-month community.

6. Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, at 3:57 pm the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Tammy Knochelelmann
Secretary to the Board of Regents

Topics for next meeting

Study results

Dining plans and Rental property information (Andy Meeks)

Housing occupancy numbers for Fall 25

Number of 12-month contracts

Preliminary ideas from Deans on Living Learning Communities