UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I STUDENT CAUCUS, 2015-2016
MEETING #6
Saturday, January 23, 2016
Leeward Community College, GT 105

Attendees:
UH Hilo: Melinda Alles
Manoa, ASUH: Kelly Zakimi, Todd Simeroth
Manoa, GSO: Bret Polopolus-Meredith, Ed Hoogland
Kapiolani CC: William Arenivas, Charessa Fryc
Kauai CC: Napua Domenden
Leeward CC: Trong Dang
UH Maui College: Dannette Arrojo, Alison Ida
Windward CC: Kelli Acopan
Hawaii CC: Wolfgang Schnackenberg, Stacey Kumao’o

Interim Advisor Joanne Itano

Guests:
Dr. Risa Dickson, Vice President for Academic Affairs (UH System)

I. OPENING
Mindy opened the meeting at 9:27 am

II. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION
Dr. Risa Dickson, Vice President for Academic Affairs (UH System)
Joanne Itano, Interim Advisor

A. Email to Joanne from President Lassner identifying 2 issues and requesting feedback.
   a. Stipends and impact on Financial Aid
      1. Is stipend treated like scholarship and deducted from fin aid package?
         i. Depends on campus. Concept of stipend interpreted differently per university. Certain types of money have to be treated in a certain way.
         ii. Stipend guidelines federal – change wording to being service award, offered gift card – works for now but contingent on interpretation.
         iii. Can word it same way as athletes? Because they don’t get taxed on it.
      2. HawCC - tuition waiver 12 cred (VCSA budget) + stipend
      3. KapCC leadership credit hoping to set by end of Fall 2016
         i. WCC also pursuing leadership course for credit, paid for by ASUH budget, senate also to receive stipend
      4. UH Maui – council voted for course and lower stipend, course optional.
      5. Solution: What about Federal Workstudy program?
         i. Tried to do it, found that the more engaged you are on campus (sg, clubs, etc) the higher the graduation rate. Students FAFSA determine need, Workstudy part of FinAid package
      6. Solution: Consider stipend as scholarship rather than job
         i. Kap CC - student employment hourly wage rather than stipend, no difference between positions, all receive $10.10/hr, 15 hours max. annual and surplus budgets
ii. Issues: Hour limits on student employment may not allow SG to be paid as student employees. Once student becomes employee, harder time having them removed from office because employee vs senator.

7. Consensus - interested in exploring student employment + option of stipend.

b. Registration after transfer and being considered as new students.
   1. Transferring queue – transferring junior different than continuing junior. As one system, students should be treated the same across the board.
   2. Transfer programs available, not publicized
   3. ASUH Manoa to discuss if interested in transfer credits equating to a continuing junior or incoming/transfer junior.
   4. Most of the articulation issues taken care of – issue of classes at one place not transferred over to another. Articulation database in Banner, every campus has to input, every campus has own articulation database, so fixable because of small nuances. Every single class that was reported was checked. Policy states that any course 100+ transfers from one campus to another. Might not count to degree but should transfer.
   5. If situation arises where UH course taken at one campus doesn’t transfer, contact Joanne/person in Joanne’s position.

B. New tuition cycle – tuition setting process.
   a. Proposal for tuition schedule goes to board next month. Question is over the next 6 years, how much to raise and what to raise it for. Presentation should be on BOR website. Mar/April will do public meetings, May do revisions, June make presentation to board. Request to coordinate with campuses so SG can meet.
   b. Cost of Education to target population of Pell Grant recipients as well as Hawaiian, Filipino students. Overview what areas of need are, include expense and revenue model – what sources of revenue, what is it being spent on, what is it needed for.
   c. Raised for:
      1. Academic support for students in areas of things like advising, learning support, tutoring. Not for fund new or existing programs.
         i. Number of Academic advisors significantly lower than national trend (via KaLeo last year). Need to include training for advisors to better assist students, quality over quantity.
      2. Financial Aid
         i. Policy that states minimum percentage of tuition revenue set aside for students in need. Not increase financial aid to student, increases amount of financial aid available to student body. Affordability survey – federal cost of living not realistic – were going to use survey to see if we can get more realistic COL and effectively alter FinAid.
      3. Deferred maintenance, capital renewal, upgrading facilities.
         i. Can make an argument that people pay for deferred maintenance for the amount of time they are in school. What is actually deferred maintenance? What needs to be done? Painting? Teardown condemned buildings? What is the breakdown. Students pay for direct wear and tear on buildings, things directly linked to students (upgrading computers, classrooms)
   d. Legislature and BOR split on whether or not to increase tuition, need cross communication between students, BOR, Legislature.
1. State Legislature thinks that UH mismanages money to the point where they don’t want to give more money to a bad thing. Biggest issue is perception that Manoa not well run. Likely mismanagement in the past, Budget and Finance VP came in with very strong perceptions of what doing wrong. Solutions include making financial model trackable, merging departments, eliminating inefficiencies, programs that might not be as cost effective. Not hopeful that cutting small programs is going to save much money. Some programs cost nothing and makes no difference except to students i.e. Women’s Studies. Cut small programs and lose money that comes in i.e. Physics. Issue is that once budget dispersed, it becomes so decentralized that they can’t say where the money goes.

e. UH monies come from state appropriation and tuition. Separate out increases where you ask for the money.
   1. Academic support comes from tuition, deferred maintenance, capital renewal comes from State Legislature. GO bonds, revenue Bonds another way because deferred maintenance Legislative money appropriation denied
   2. Tuition raised differentially based on campus and need.
      i. Cost of education on high side when you compare institutions. Faculty salaries paid more because cost of living higher here than other places. Operational cost higher, so UH schools more expensive.
      ii. When California increased tuition, majority of students felt no or little impact (due to FinAid/Scholarship), or had families who could afford.

f. In terms of tuition – seeking justification and accommodation to students to keep them happy with tuition raise. Need more collaboration with admin, BOR, how we can lobby legislation to minimize tuition increases

g. Admin broach subject and tell us what they need help on and then we can discuss and help out. Request for list of all bills, marking top bills

C. Moving to GPS/STAR registration
   a. Issues: Some required courses/prereq courses only offered one time slot, not every semester. Classes closed at the last minute and students scramble to fill schedule, delays graduation because some classes are stepped classes or prereqs for the next class
   b. Departments have huge impact on how students perceive campus and system – either responsive or not, might not make same decision if knew delayed graduation, if dept chairs provided analytics maybe could make change. Star should be able to predict – as long as students follow schedule. Should be able to get analytics data out of that, pathway set out, should be able to use data to determine what and when to offer.
   c. How to address issue: Present student voice with as many specific examples as possible or pass resolution that students prefer classes at certain time.

III. DISCUSSION: Presentations
   A. OER – Kelly and Trong
      a. Presentation went well, feedback: informative and well prepared. Support from other professors who are testing waters and willing to do it.
b. Faculty pushback one of biggest opponents. Concerns: Faculty uses videos connected with publisher. Question of where resources coming from, cost money and resources, where funding come from to make it standard across system, cost related to centralized data server housing. Hard for non-tenured faculty to utilize materials because not enough time to prepare. Most faculty felt comfortable where they are and didn’t want to change.

B. OMBUDS – Ed and Will
   a. Presentation went well, but discussion not as open as they wanted.
   b. Suggestions from Chancellors: Reports more than every 3 months suggested. Confidentiality questions – legal concerns and requirements. Appreciated suggestion to pool resources instead of creating new pull on resources, without spending additional $60K per campus. Successful OMBUDS office can do outreach as well.
   c. Mindy sent to Chancellors, BOR. BOR no response, WO Chancellor Frietas responded looked good, Kauai chancellor responded with concerns re: funding.
   d. Follow-up: Each individual campus SG to make appointment with Chancellor to figure out what is best for each campus and follow through, report back and see what came out of it. Work with faculty senate and other orgs on campus, the more allies the better.

IV. LUNCH & CAMPUS SHARING
   A. UH Manoa
      a. Working with Rep, Choy on bill for more funding for counseling and development, big one to focus on this Leg session. Bill drafted, just needs to be assigned a number.
      b. BOR meeting this coming week, officers invited to breakfast and discussion
      c. Held Active Shooter Awareness training just for senate
      d. Special Elections packet – 3 open seats, application due this week, as well as RISO funding due this week. Scholarships and awards due soon too
      e. ASUH passed resolution not supporting athletic increase

   B. Leeward CC
      a. Lost some people adding new members
      b. Break in on campus, stole ATM in cafeteria, brought up discussion of more security on campus, only one night guard on campus, maybe need more
      c. Revving up for elections

   C. Kapiolani CC
      a. Rebuilding year, figuring things out this semester. Bodies committed, staffing office more frequently. Put more hours into facilitating election, program, set students up for future success
      b. Bbus passes – complaints about price increases. Asking CCs for data – how many passes sold throughout the year, don’t want to impose fee on entire student body, if CCs can come together and collectively do it. VCAS work with bus company to facilitate lower fee for passes
      c. Passed resolution for study hub - tutoring service. Trying to facilitate all tutoring services in one place, got Title III grant but doesn’t last so trying to get Admin to fund and back it up
d. Created website for SG and CSOs

e. Held leadership retreat with all leaders in school, successful, about 30 students

f. Spring convocation – told Admins about progress and what they’ve been doing

g. Secretary left, voted new one in

**D. Kauai CC**

a. Held leadership training, lots of new members. 2 senators stepped up to admin positions

b. New ATM at Student Life Center (after 4 years of SG campaigning for one)

c. Library still under renovation

d. Ho’opili Hou coming up, about 110 confirmed attendees. Opened up conference to clubs with ASUH covering cost as a ‘scholarship’

**E. GSO**

a. Working on unionization efforts. Couple bills introduced to change statute to allow opportunity to unionize

b. Bill introduced student and faculty on BOR, might be other reps that remove some regent positions, think there are too many of them. Choy not willing to ask for voting positions. 2 year position, constant turnover, take a couple months to gain their bearings

c. Athletic survey – majority of students don’t want to pay for athletics, inclined to support university asking for more money if that’s what the people want but not tuition money goes to it. If people want it, people pay for it not students

d. Next week - holding monthly coffee hour for students

**F. UH Maui College**

a. Problem – Veterans Resource Center no money to fund. Grant fund only one more year. SG asked to bring subject to see if Caucus would be in support of keeping Veterans Resource Center open.

b. Had Welcome Back event - gave away pizza, completed surveys, 150+ attendees

c. All Clubs Day held Jan 22nd

d. Kukakuka sessions monthly to collect surveys which differ each month, compiled and then submitted to committee who goes over surveys

e. Taking 5 people to Ho’opili Hou

f. Student appreciation and elections in april

**G. Hawaii CC**

a. Trying to get bylaws and constitution ratified. Worked to fix budget in bylaws. Over summer things changed without input of current leadership. Without making voting invalid, what can they do? Attract students with food? Taking time to do it right so they don’t have to go through this again

b. VP started Facebook Page, should be up and running soon. Way to get ideas and surveys and get students direct input.

c. Working with secretary to blast link to webpage to students

**H. Windward CC**

a. Trying to move towards governance versus previous focus on student life/events, encountering some hesitation, not necessarily resistance but realization that now there’s actual work involved.
b. Currently holding in-senate election to fill open officer positions.
c. Held Welcome Back event, served breakfast to students the first day of school.

I. UH Hilo
a. Issues – haven’t had official business meeting since October. Even though not in bylaws/constitution that advisor is needed, admin decision made that advisor necessary or face suspension of SG.
b. Met with previous Dean of College of Arts and Sciences who moved to faculty position, agreed to be interim advisor. Chancellor agreed to him as interim, hoping to move forward now that advisor in place. Advisor report directly to Chancellor. Will sit down and meet with him and have constitutional retreat to go over constitution and bylaws.
c. RISO UHSU harassment still happening. Must report to security and then security investigate and move along the chain, but complaints sitting at security and nothing being done about it, SG told to just deal with it. Admin not supportive.
d. Created survey about fees as UH Hilo is holding up system for fee change. Flat rate fee or per credit, waiting for response to decide to vote on change

e. Hosting caucus UH Hilo next month. Forms submitted earlier with caucus advisor change

V. ACTION AGENDA: Approve December Caucus Meeting Minutes
A. Name misspelled on previous minutes, missing full list of attendees.
B. Minutes approved pending full list of attendees, no objections/major changes

VI. ACTION AGENDA: Elect new Treasurer for Jan-May 2016
A. Had appointed Duane as treasurer, no longer caucus delegate.
B. Motion to elect Stacey as caucus treasurer. Votes per campus: all in favor, no objections. Mindy to be in touch with information and documentation

VII. ACTION AGENDA: Legislative Committee for Caucus
A. Mindy to forward list of Higher Ed bills from Stephanie Kim thru listserv. Each campus to pick 1-3 bills to track and testify
   a. Testimony writers – Ed, Charessa, Bret,
   b. Monitors – Kel A, Bret

VIII. CLOSING
A. Mindy to send out emails – bill list, travel for Feb, Kelly’s Legislative Writing presentation
B. March meeting supposed to be at Hon CC, still have no government so unable to host. GSO willing to host, will be doing meeting at Manoa.
   a. Napua eat fish but not meat
C. electHER – if interested in attending – Mar 12th at Manoa campus, contact Roxie (point person), usually from 9-3 or 4. Kelly to ask Roxie to send out

Meeting was adjourned at 2:32 pm