Academic Affairs Minutes 10/22

22 October 2024 / 5 PM / ROOM 201

ATTENDEES

- ☑ ~~Hannah Collins~~
- ☑ ~~Molly Wentworth~~
- ☑ ~~Cole Rinne~~
- ☑ ~~Cameron Hudson~~
- ☑ ~~Sudishma Acharya (online)~~
- ☑ ~~Kayla Refflet~~
- ☑ ~~Maddie Hinrichs (online)~~

AGENDA

New Business

- Lisa Giudici, First Year Experience Coordinator
    - EGR 105: Myra in Engineering
    - BUS 101

4 core goals of URI 101

- Explore and identity the URI Community
- Develop as a learner
- Utilize platforms (BS, Google, etc)

- Students can swipe into LLC of their same major residence halls until 8pm
- Make registration a piece of cake event in LLCs
    - Important to have these other continued conversations related to advising, etc.
- Connecting with people and growing resources and knowledge even outside of the classroom

- EGR 105
    - Students had less positive experiences with mentors as compared to URI 101
    - Importance of peer-peer roles; mentors should meet 1-on-1 with students between weeks 4-6 because of first bigs assignments and exams during this period; need guidance and support from someone who can relate
    - Would it be possible to have mentors in smaller size classes; class sizes very large; schedule 1 on 1s in class periods?; cole missed many classes during the semester due to projects; professor seemingly forced to teach the class
        - Sometimes less experienced instructors are better than experienced faculty; they may be better at the latter end of learning and degree
        - Professors Contractually obligated to teach URI 101, may believe it is somewhat below their expertise
            - All about showing up the same from the 1st time to the 20th time for example
- Main theme of tools, resources, access, sense of belonging
- Coming in to URI with multiple majors, how are these students considered and would there be resources/help/a section specifically for these individuals
    - Lisa encourages advisors to align with primary major because 2nd and 3rd major are meant to complement primary major
    - Give students curriculum sheets and encourage them to pull up what is needed for major
    - Encourage advising appointment, or to go to outside advising events
- Note that mentors should not have to grade
- If some students aren't willing to share personal information in their reflections, that should be okay
    - Practice empowerment
    - Meant to shape and build life skills
    - We don't expect students to be outed in writing
    - Don't set students up for the potential to feel uncomfortable sharing
- Instructor training
    - Given instructor level access to resources

- Talks about campus resources; customizes to major
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- How to welcome students and build relationships with students
- How to make 50 minutes purposeful every week
- Office hours for faculty to drop in with questions
- Mentor training
    - Finalized application for leadership team today
        - December training continues into spring
        - Will discuss recruitment and sign up day; make it less chaotic

Lisa's changes

- No more transfer specific URI 101 courses!
- Wants URI 102 in spring; caters to non-traditional students
    - Athletes
    - Transfers
    - 1st gens
    - For when non-traditional students are ready
- Achieve all 5 themes of collegiate experience in URI 101
- Programming (meeting with talent development, advising, rhody first, Gender and sexuality center, MSSC, etc.)
- Sections for certain programs/majors/major clusters will run even if there is a small number of students signed up
- Looking for consistency as opposed to standardization; standardization as a whole doesn't cater the same to each major
- Student feedback is the most important thing! Encouragement is needed

How can we as senate help?

- Educate students
- Social media posts
- Empower students
- Direct students to Lisa
- Always reach out and question

Hannah — AS, URI 101

Cole — Engineering

Kayla — CELS

Elaine — AS, Transfer Student

Molly — PharmD, URI 101

Cam — AS

- VIPs: Chris Lavan — Assoc. Vice Provost
- 12:34

Last Meeting Follow-up

- Library Service Tour w/ Amanda Izenstark Professor, Reference & Instructional Design Librarian; Interim Chair, Public Services Department
- Senate Tabling Ideas
- AEC & Writing Center Insta Posts
- STEM Prep Materials Bill (continuation from last year)

NOTES

- **Google Drive [Link](#)**

ACTION ITEMS

1. Transfer representative position on senate
2. Library tour meeting time date and time TBD
3. Senate tabling ideas
    a. Welcome days in the spring
4. Posts about URI 101 and transfers
    a. Canva
5. Bill for prep materials for STEM students
6. Goal: pass/promote 2 bills before the end of semester!