Senate Committee on Student Affairs

19-20 Summary Report

The committee was chaired by Jennifer Essig, College of Health Sciences and met 4 times during the academic year. The first order of business was finalizing the committee charge and submitting it to Faculty Senate for vote. The committee charge had been edited by the previous committee but was never put on a Senate agenda for approval and voting. Since the committee membership had a 75% turnover from the year prior, most members were unfamiliar with the edits that had been suggested. During the first two meetings, the committee finalized the draft and sent it forward to Senate for approval. The committee charge was approved on February 21, 2020. The main change in the charge involved membership. In the future, only half of the committee will step down at the end of an academic year, allowing more consistency in representation and moving tasks forward.

The committee also spent time reaching out to the departments on campus that our charge expects us to work with. Invited guests from student government, campus life and student housing, campus review board, student affairs, and the scholarship committee presented their role on campus and discussed how the committee could effectively partner with them moving forward. In the future, SGA will assign a representative to this committee to serve a one-year term. A representative from this committee will participate in the Scholarship committee, and members will be trained to participate on the campus review board.

Goals of the committee for next academic year include continued work with SGA to monitor budgets and allocation of resources, work with faculty in promoting on campus resources to students, and review of policies related to student life (such as safety, housing, and student fees).