Attendees: Kristina Whalen, Sharon Donovan, Carl Jew, Ted Alfaro, Peter Stoffers, Karen Saginor

Absent: Veronica Hunnicutt, Samuel Santos, Carole Meagher, John Watson, Sharon Nunley, Jill Kersey

Guests: Jack Jacoby

* bold = voting members

I. Student Input of Veteran Support Sub committee (Jack Jacoby, Veterans Alliance president)

Discussion about a potential subcommittee named Veterans Concerns continued from previous meeting.

Jacoby provided perspective on the need for potential subcommittee as President of the Veterans Alliance. He noted that 1,289 vets are on campus and 250 more anticipated to attend next semester.

Jacoby also felt that veterans were under attack on campus, citing vandalism to veteran’s cars around the Veterans Day holiday and several incidents with faculty in which veterans and the veteran’s center were accused of being homophobic and hostile to women. Saginor noted that many on campus regretted the comments made surrounding the charges of homophobia and expressed their concerns on the Queer listserv. Jacoby felt such remarks, disseminated widely by a faculty Chair, were unacceptable.

Jacoby also noted that a devoted staff person was needed as Santos, Goodyear, Chavaria, and Fregley, all of whom work hard for veterans concerns, all also have substantial duties elsewhere on campus. Carl Jew noted that a subcommittee would have no authority to assign a staff person but could work in an advisory capacity to advocate for one on student’s behalf.

It was Jacoby’s opinion that a subcommittee would aid and support students, especially pertaining to faculty development and education on veteran’s issues. He approved of the recommended number of administrators, staff, faculty, and students.

II. Course Enrollment Transparency

Discussion continued on the resolution for enrollment transparency. Questions were raised about resistance to making numbers visible. Whalen noted that in the Registration SE Task Force committee meeting the idea was not pursued because the committee chair felt that students would not attend low enrolled classes for fear the class would be canceled. Committee members discussed the merits of this argument and concluded that in a climate of reduced courses, this would not be a concern. Further, members of the committee felt that navigating the campus with a low enrollment priority is very challenging, there are many students who enroll the week before or the week of the beginning of a semester, and enrollment information gives students a tool for decision making.

Saginor noted that resistance to the idea might also be the fact that enrollment figures are not accurate, as they may not reflect recently distributed add stickers. Stoffers noted that while not perfect, the enrollment figures are more accurate and helpful to the student than the current system.

Saginor suggested a pilot study in which a few department make visible enrollment data and report of the success of filling classes. Donovan said that Child Dev might be interested in being in the pilot. Whalen was charged with talking to Mary Lou Leyba and Mihn Hoa Ta about the possibility and logistics of such a pilot.
The committee discussed metrics for success of the pilot. Stoffers suggested that “time to fill” course might be a metric. Jew noted that a decrease in late adds might also be a metric.

Donovan thought some might express concern that enrollment transparency would aid those trying to commit financial aid fraud.

III. Next meeting

Peter Stoffers will bring data and Resolution on Self-Directed Enrollment

Whalen will ask Dean Ta and Mary Lou Leyba to attend next meeting

2nd Draft of Veteran's Concerns subcommittee will be circulated

Follow-up on the health of several sub committee

IV. Minutes from Oct were not approved due to lack of quorum but several name corrections were submitted.

Next meeting is scheduled for December 12th at 2:00 in the C 339.